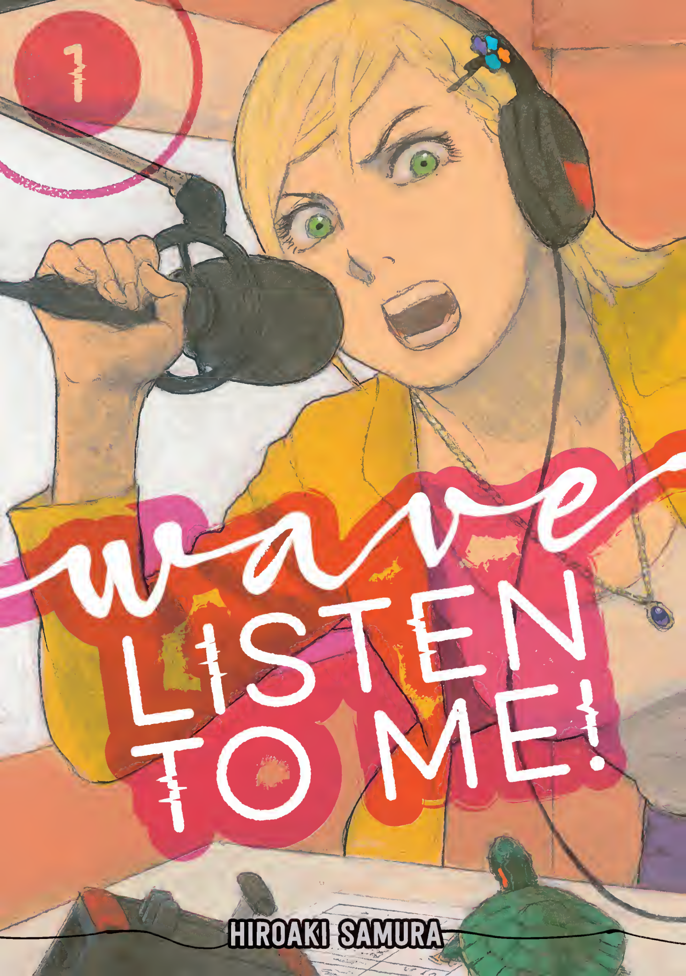


1

wave LISTEN TO ME!

HIROAKI SAMURA

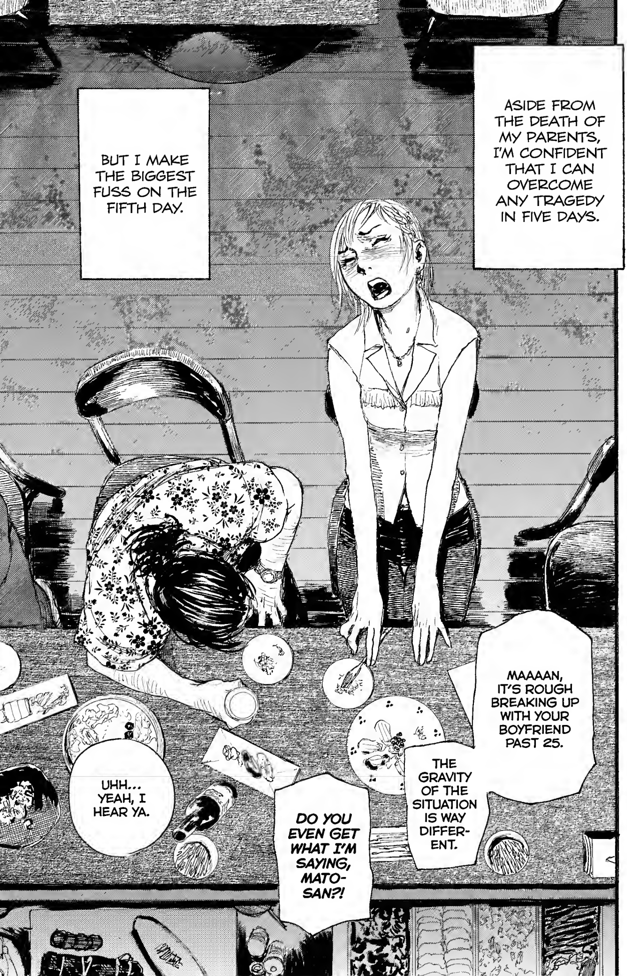
wave

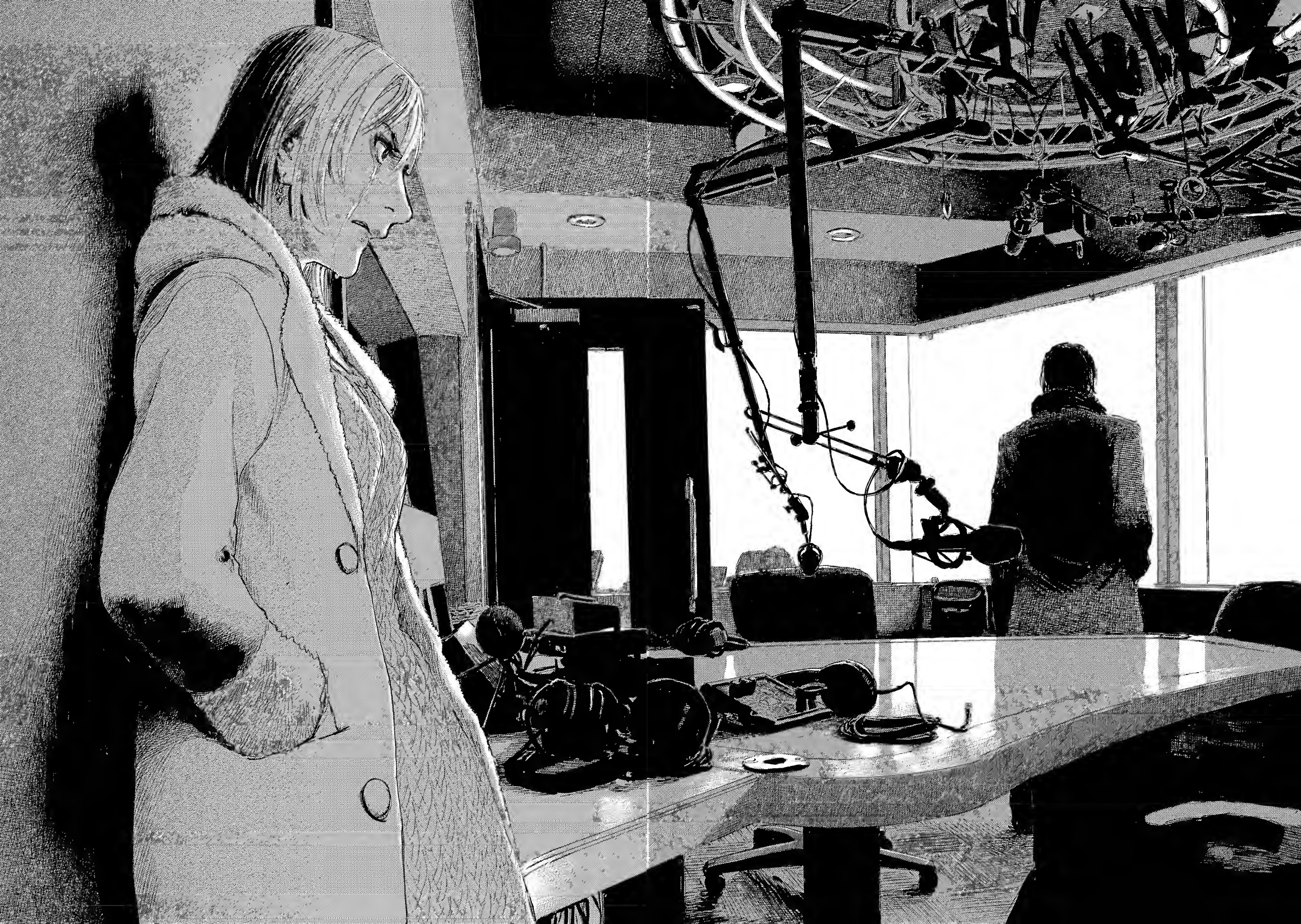
LISTEN TO ME!

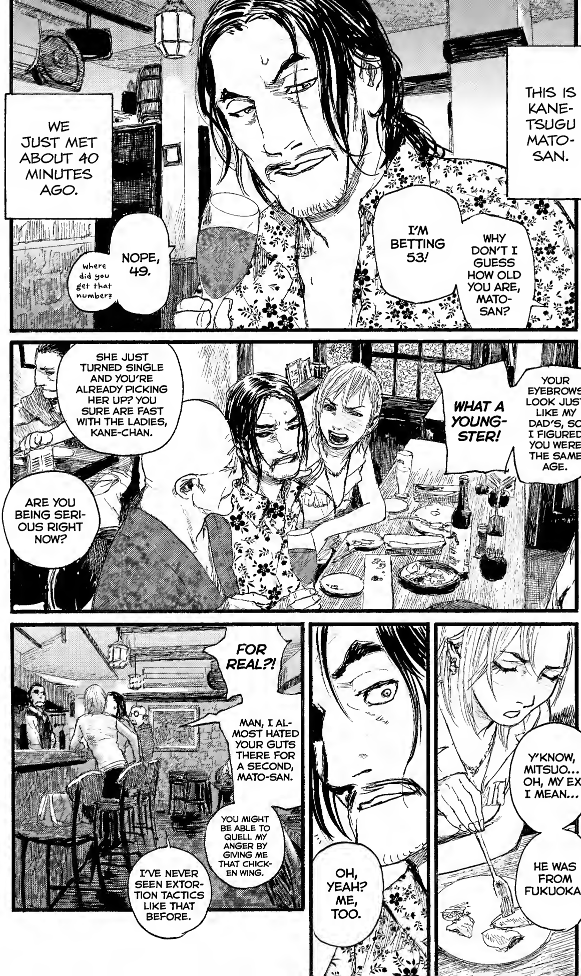
HIROAKI SAMURA

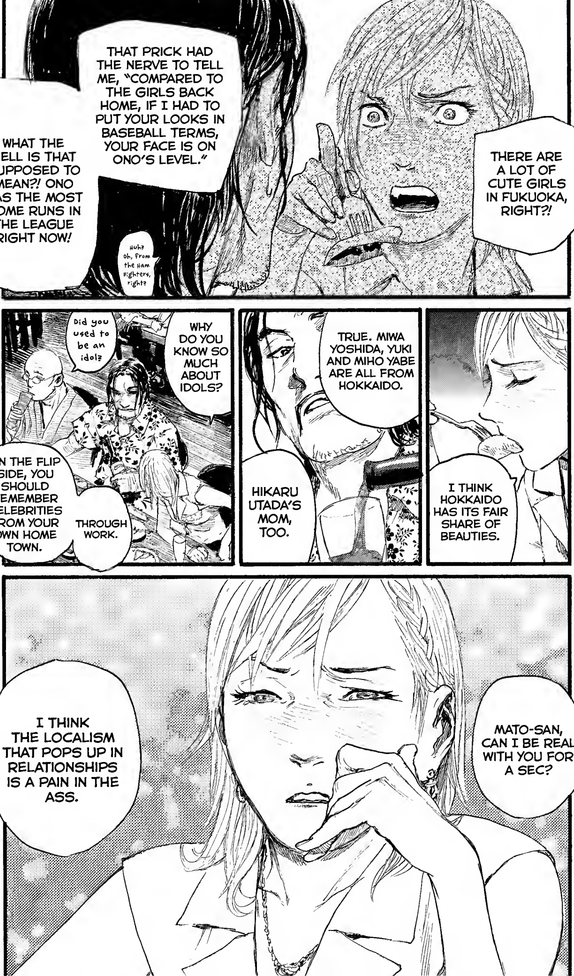
1

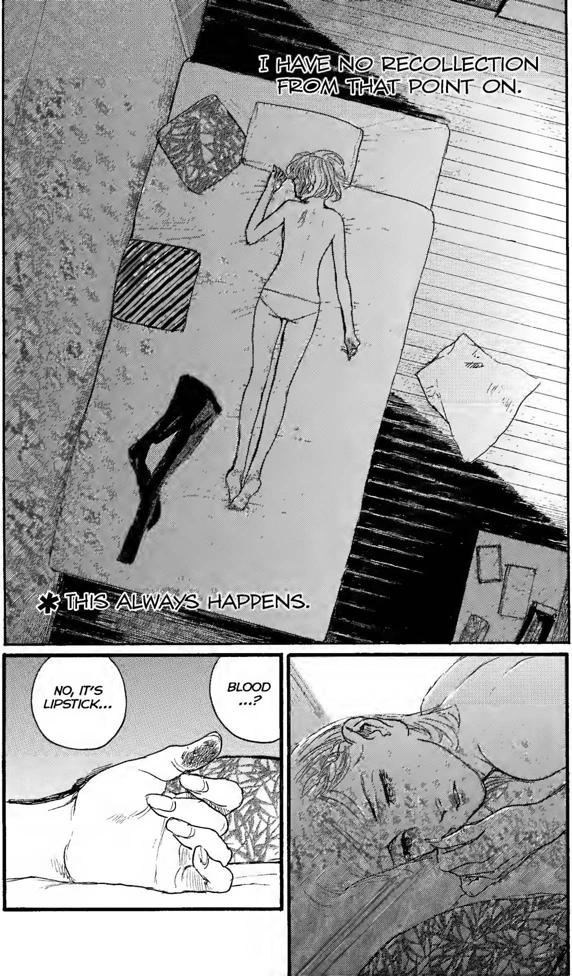
Chapter 1 ◆ 「I WON'T FORGIVE YOU!」 003
Chapter 2 ◆ 「I WANT YOU.」 035
Chapter 3 ◆ 「I DESPISE THEM.」 057
Chapter 4 ◆ 「I NEED SOMETHING FROM YOU.」 081
Chapter 5 ◆ 「YOU GUYS ARE SO LAX.」 103
Chapter 6 ◆ 「I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.」 125
Chapter 7 ◆ 「YOU WON'T GO HOME.」 147
Chapter 8 ◆ 「YOU WON'T SMILE.」 169

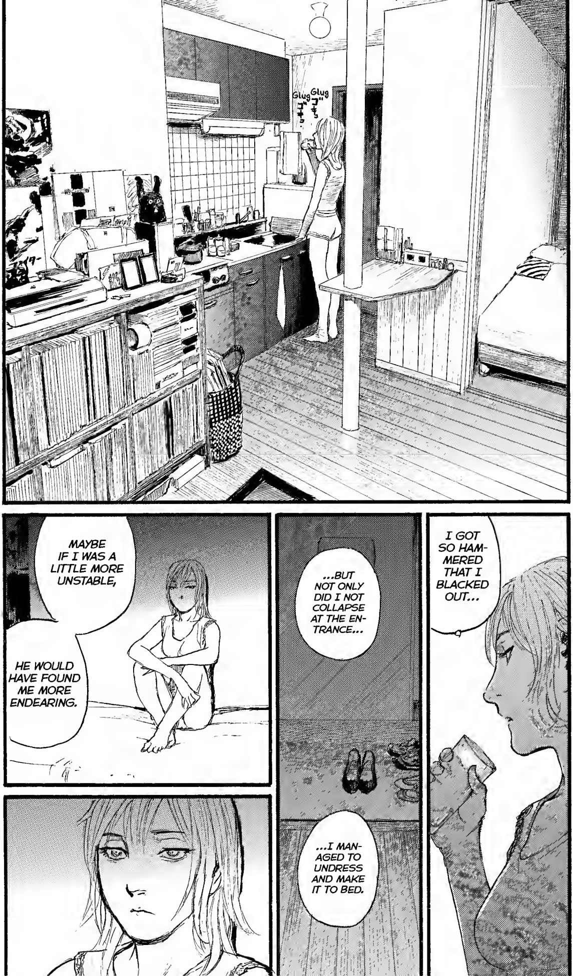

ASIDE FROM THE DEATH OF MY PARENTS, I'M CONFIDENT THAT I CAN OVERCOME ANY TRAGEDY IN FIVE DAYS.
BUT I MAKE THE BIGGEST FUSS ON THE FIFTH DAY.
MAAAAN, IT'S ROUGH BREAKING UP WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND PAST 25.
THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION IS WAY DIFFERENT.
DO YOU EVEN GET WHAT I'M SAYING, MATO-SAN?!
UHH... YEAH, I HEAR YA.

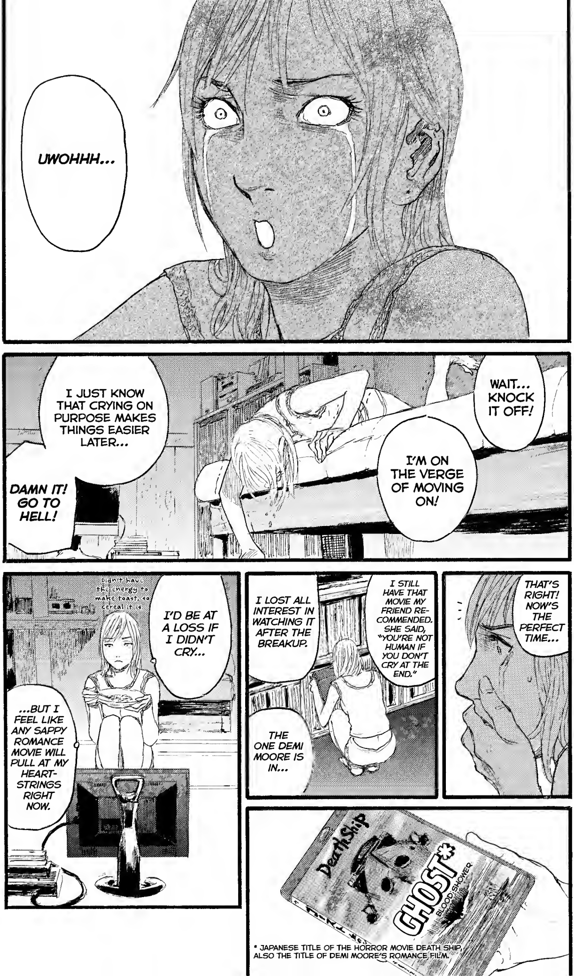



THIS IS KANETSUGU MATO-SAN.
WE JUST MET ABOUT 40 MINUTES AGO.
WHY DON'T I GUESS HOW OLD YOU ARE, MATO-SAN?
I'M BETTING 53!
NOPE, 49.
where did you get that number?
YOUR EYEBROWS LOOK JUST LIKE MY DAD'S, SO I FIGURED YOU WERE THE SAME AGE.
WHAT A YOUNGSTER!
SHE JUST TURNED SINGLE AND YOU'RE ALREADY PICKING HER UP? YOU SURE ARE FAST WITH THE LADIES, KANE-CHAN.
ARE YOU BEING SERIOUS RIGHT NOW?
Y'KNOW, MITSUO... OH, MY EX I MEAN...
HE WAS FROM FUKUOKA.
OH, YEAH? ME, TOO.
FOR REAL?!
MAN, I ALMOST HATED YOUR GUTS THERE FOR A SECOND, MATO-SAN.
YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO QUELL MY ANGER BY GIVING ME THAT CHICKEN WING.
I'VE NEVER SEEN EXTORTION TACTICS LIKE THAT BEFORE.

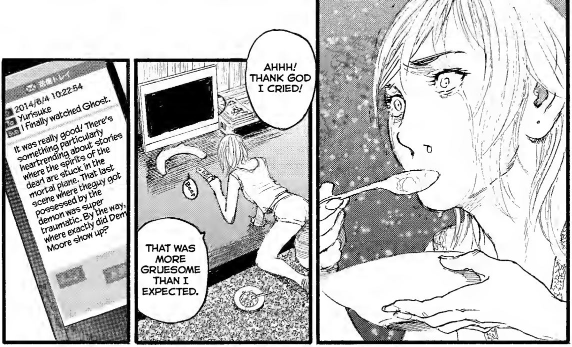

THERE ARE A LOT OF CUTE GIRLS IN FUKUOKA, RIGHT?!
THAT PRICK HAD THE NERVE TO TELL ME, "COMPARED TO THE GIRLS BACK HOME, IF I HAD TO PUT YOUR LOOKS IN BASEBALL TERMS, YOUR FACE IS ON ONO'S LEVEL."
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?! ONO HAS THE MOST HOME RUNS IN THE LEAGUE RIGHT NOW!
Huh? Oh, from the Ham Fighters, right?
I THINK HOKKAIDO HAS ITS FAIR SHARE OF BEAUTIES.
TRUE. MIWA YOSHIDA, YUKI AND MIHO YABE ARE ALL FROM HOKKAIDO.
HIKARU UTADA'S MOM, TOO.
WHY DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT IDOLS?
Did you used to be an idol?
THROUGH WORK.
ON THE FLIP SIDE, YOU SHOULD REMEMBER CELEBRITIES FROM YOUR OWN HOME TOWN.
MATO-SAN, CAN I BE REAL WITH YOU FOR A SEC?
I THINK THE LOCALISM THAT POPS UP IN RELATIONSHIPS IS A PAIN IN THE ASS.


I HAVE NO RECOLLECTION FROM THAT POINT ON.
✱ THIS ALWAYS HAPPENS.
BLOOD ...?
NO, IT'S LIPSTICK...


Glug Glug
ゴキュ ゴキュ
I GOT SO HAMMERED THAT I BLACKED OUT...
...BUT NOT ONLY DID I NOT COLLAPSE AT THE ENTRANCE...
...I MANAGED TO UNDRESS AND MAKE IT TO BED.
MAYBE IF I WAS A LITTLE MORE UNSTABLE,
HE WOULD HAVE FOUND ME MORE ENDEARING.

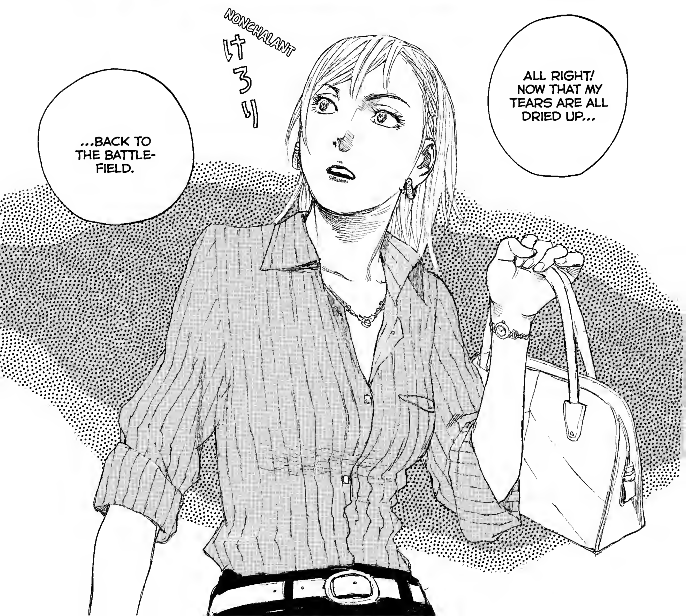

UWOHHH...
I JUST KNOW THAT CRYING ON PURPOSE MAKES THINGS EASIER LATER...
DAMN IT! GO TO HELL!
WAIT... KNOCK IT OFF!
I'M ON THE VERGE OF MOVING ON!
Didn't have the energy to make toast, so cereal it is.
I'D BE AT A LOSS IF I DIDN'T CRY...
...BUT I FEEL LIKE ANY SAPPY ROMANCE MOVIE WILL PULL AT MY HEART-STRINGS RIGHT NOW.
I LOST ALL INTEREST IN WATCHING IT AFTER THE BREAKUP.
I STILL HAVE THAT MOVIE MY FRIEND RE-COMMENDED. SHE SAID, "YOU'RE NOT HUMAN IF YOU DON'T CRY AT THE END."
THE ONE DEMI MOORE IS IN...
THAT'S RIGHT! NOW'S THE PERFECT TIME...
DeathShip
GHOST*
BLOOD SHOWER

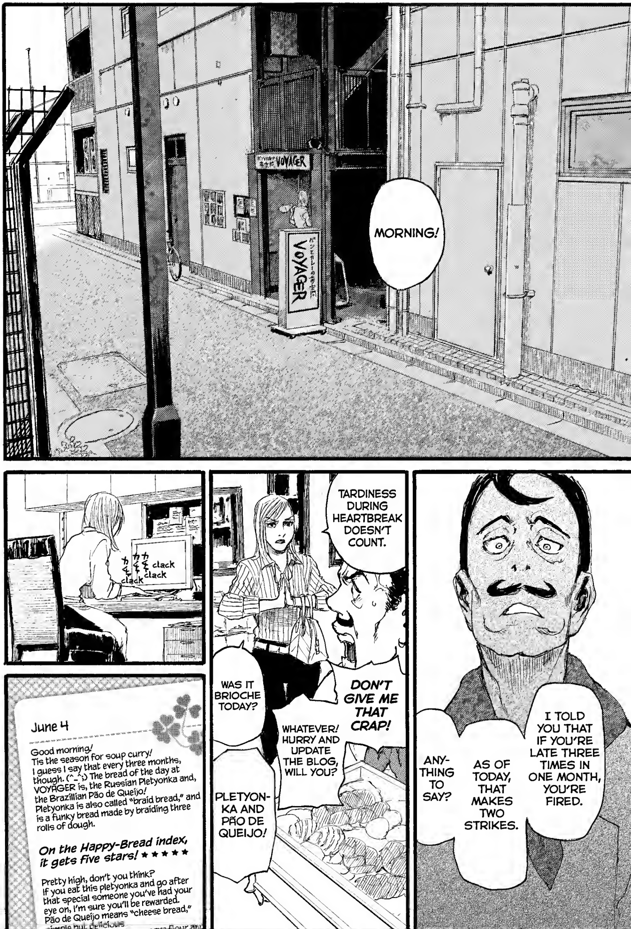
* JAPANESE TITLE OF THE HORROR MOVIE DEATH SHIP, ALSO THE TITLE OF DEMI MOORE'S ROMANCE FILM.


AHHH! THANK GOD I CRIED!
Beep
THAT WAS MORE GRUESOME THAN I EXPECTED.
送信トレイ

2014/6/4 10:22:54
Yurisuke
I Finally watched Ghost.

It was really good! There's something particularly heartrending about stories where the spirits of the dead are stuck in the mortal plane. That last scene where theguy got possessed by the demon was super traumatic. By the way, where exactly did Dem Moore show up?


ALL RIGHT! NOW THAT MY TEARS ARE ALL DRIED UP...
NONCHALANT
けろり
...BACK TO THE BATTLE-FIELD.

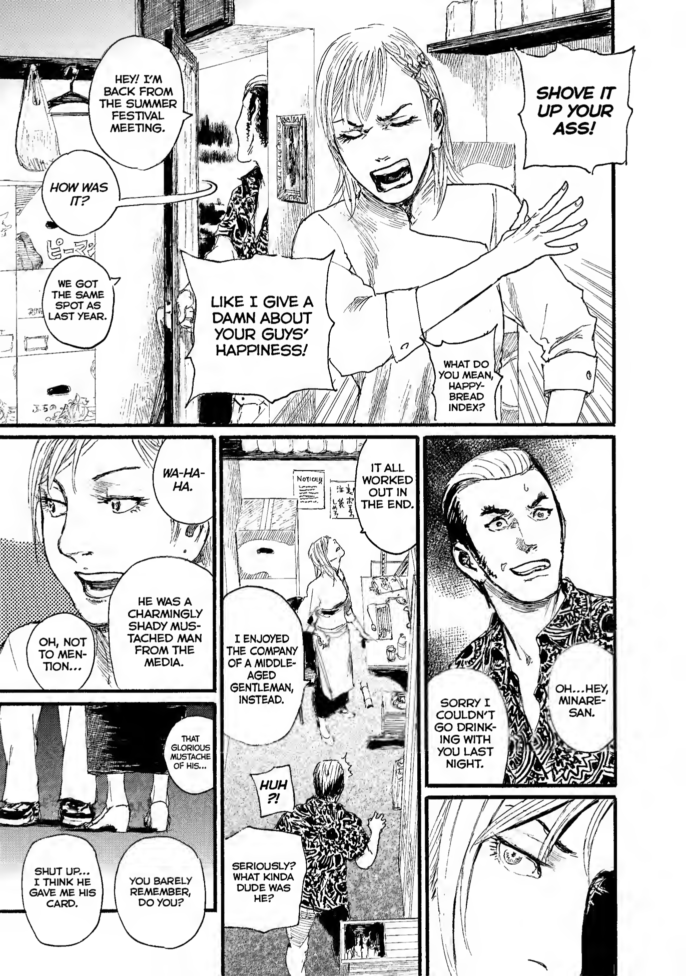

VOYAGER
VOYAGER
MORNING!
I TOLD YOU THAT IF YOU'RE LATE THREE TIMES IN ONE MONTH, YOU'RE FIRED.
AS OF TODAY, THAT MAKES TWO STRIKES.
ANY-THING TO SAY?
TARDINESS DURING HEARTBREAK DOESN'T COUNT.
DON'T GIVE ME THAT CRAP!
WHATEVER! HURRY AND UPDATE THE BLOG, WILL YOU?
WAS IT BRIOCHE TODAY?
PLETYON-KA AND PÃO DE QUEIJO!
clack clack
clack clack

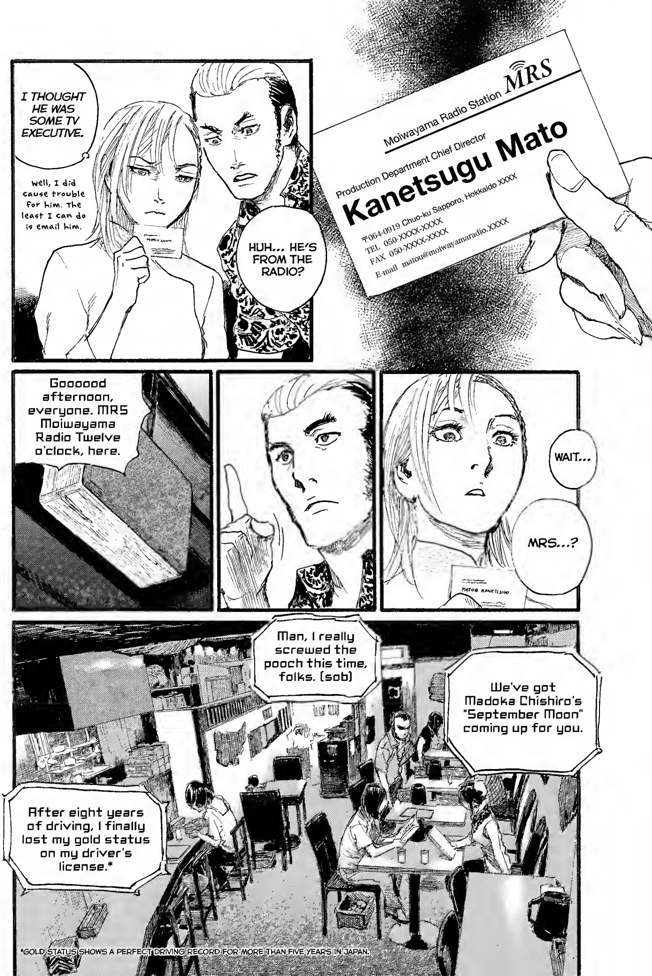
June 4

Good morning!
Tis the season for soup curry!
I guess I say that every three months, though. (^_^;) The bread of the day at VOYAGER is, the Russian Pletyonka and, the Brazillian Pão de Queijo!
Pletyonka is also called "braid bread," and is a funky bread made by braiding three rolls of dough.

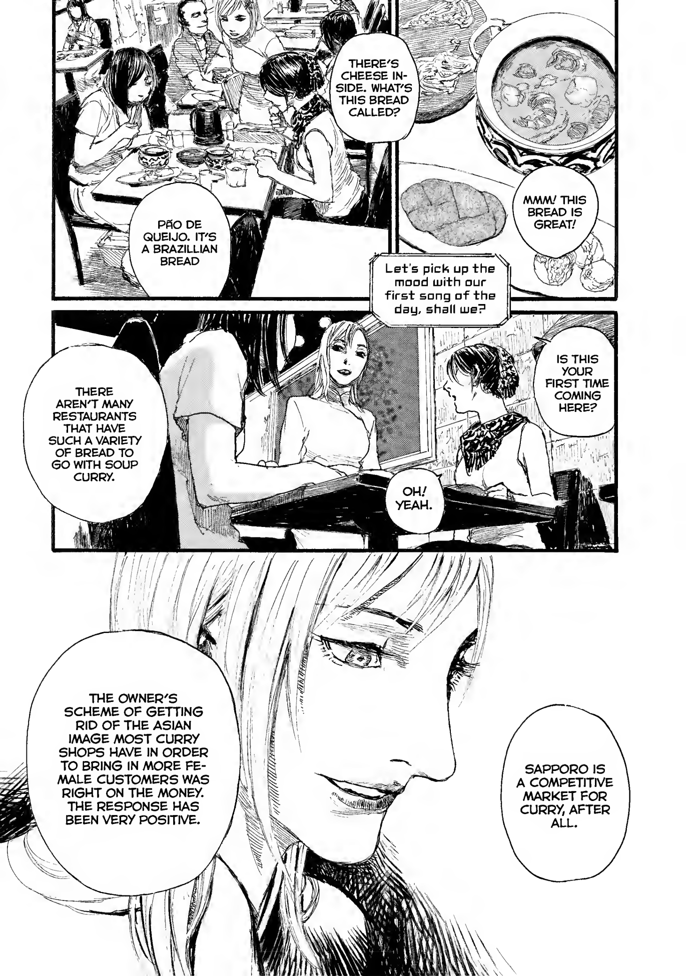
On the Happy-Bread index, it gets five stars! ★★★★★

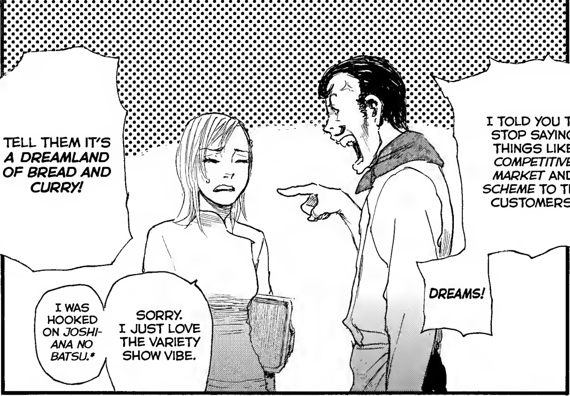
Pretty high, don't you think?
If you eat this pletyonka and go after that special someone you've had your eye on, I'm sure you'll be rewarded.
Pão de Queijo means "cheese bread," simple but delicious [illegible] flour an


SHOVE IT UP YOUR ASS!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, HAPPY-BREAD INDEX?
LIKE I GIVE A DAMN ABOUT YOUR GUYS' HAPPINESS!
HEY! I'M BACK FROM THE SUMMER FESTIVAL MEETING.
HOW WAS IT?
WE GOT THE SAME SPOT AS LAST YEAR.
ピーマン
OH...HEY, MINARE-SAN.
SORRY I COULDN'T GO DRINKING WITH YOU LAST NIGHT.
NOTICE
IT ALL WORKED OUT IN THE END.
I ENJOYED THE COMPANY OF A MIDDLE-AGED GENTLEMAN, INSTEAD.
HUH?!
SERIOUSLY? WHAT KINDA DUDE WAS HE?
WA-HA-HA.
HE WAS A CHARMINGLY SHADY MUSTACHED MAN FROM THE MEDIA.
OH, NOT TO MENTION...
THAT GLORIOUS MUSTACHE OF HIS...
YOU BARELY REMEMBER, DO YOU?
SHUT UP... I THINK HE GAVE ME HIS CARD.

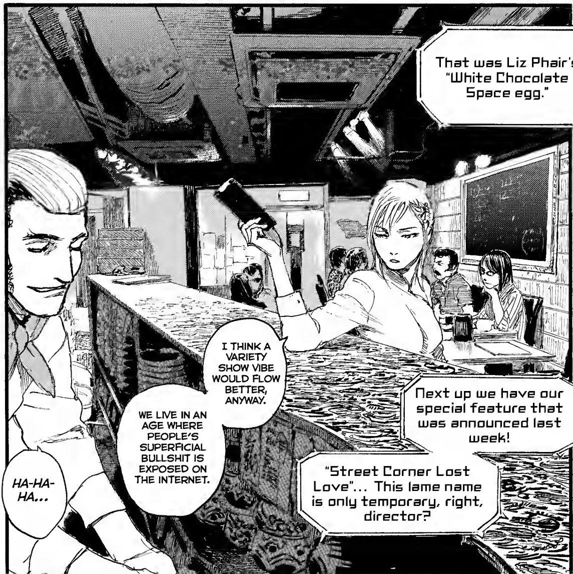

I THOUGHT HE WAS SOME TV EXECUTIVE.
Well, I did cause trouble for him. The least I can do is email him.
HUH... HE'S FROM THE RADIO?
MRS
Moiwayama Radio Station
Production Department Chief Director
Kanetsugu Mato
〒064-0919 Chuo-ku Sapporo, Hokkaido XXXX
TEL 050-XXXX-XXXX
FAX 050-XXXX-XXXX
E-mail matou@moiwayamaradio.XXXX
Goooood afternoon, everyone. MRS Moiwayama Radio Twelve o'clock, here.
WAIT...
MRS...?
MATOO KANETSUGU
Man, I really screwed the pooch this time, folks. (sob)
We've got Madoka Chishiro's "September Moon" coming up for you.
After eight years of driving, I finally lost my gold status on my driver's license.*

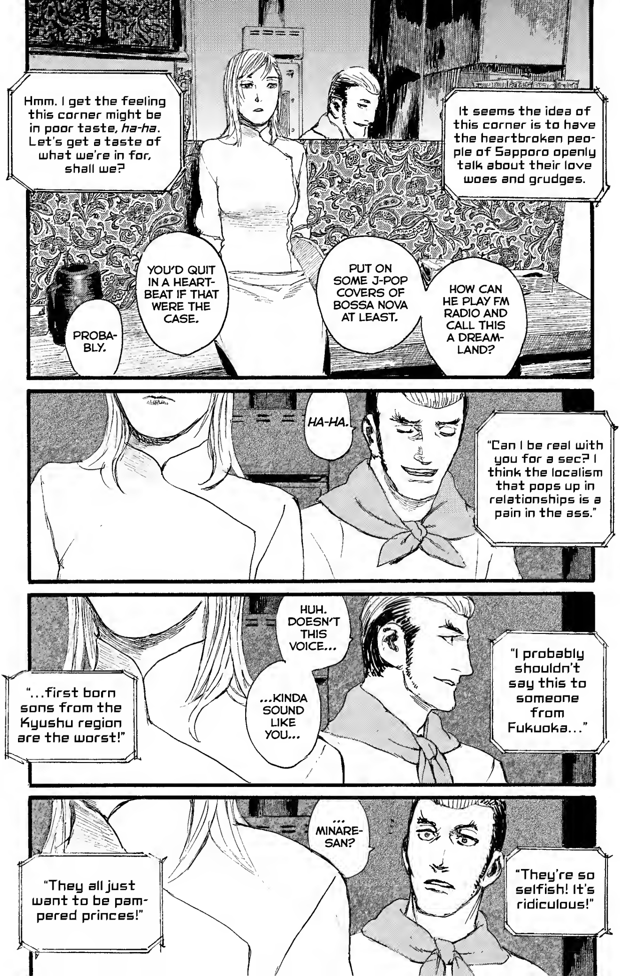
*GOLD STATUS SHOWS A PERFECT DRIVING RECORD FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS IN JAPAN.

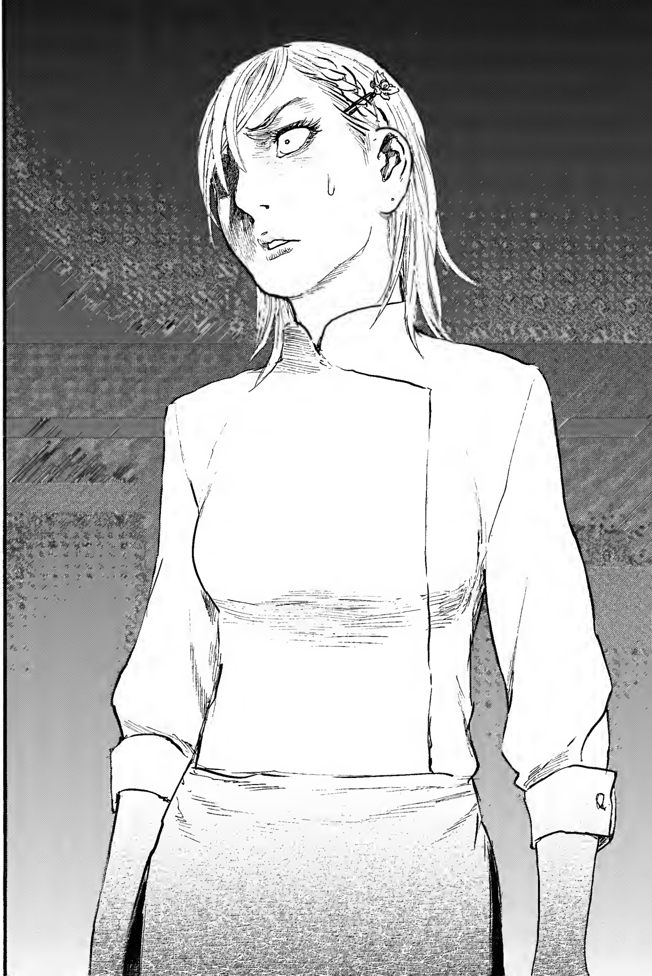

MMM! THIS BREAD IS GREAT!
THERE'S CHEESE INSIDE. WHAT'S THIS BREAD CALLED?
PÃO DE QUEIJO. IT'S A BRAZILLIAN BREAD
Let's pick up the mood with our first song of the day, shall we?
IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME COMING HERE?
OH! YEAH.
THERE AREN'T MANY RESTAURANTS THAT HAVE SUCH A VARIETY OF BREAD TO GO WITH SOUP CURRY.
SAPPORO IS A COMPETITIVE MARKET FOR CURRY, AFTER ALL.
THE OWNER'S SCHEME OF GETTING RID OF THE ASIAN IMAGE MOST CURRY SHOPS HAVE IN ORDER TO BRING IN MORE FEMALE CUSTOMERS WAS RIGHT ON THE MONEY. THE RESPONSE HAS BEEN VERY POSITIVE.

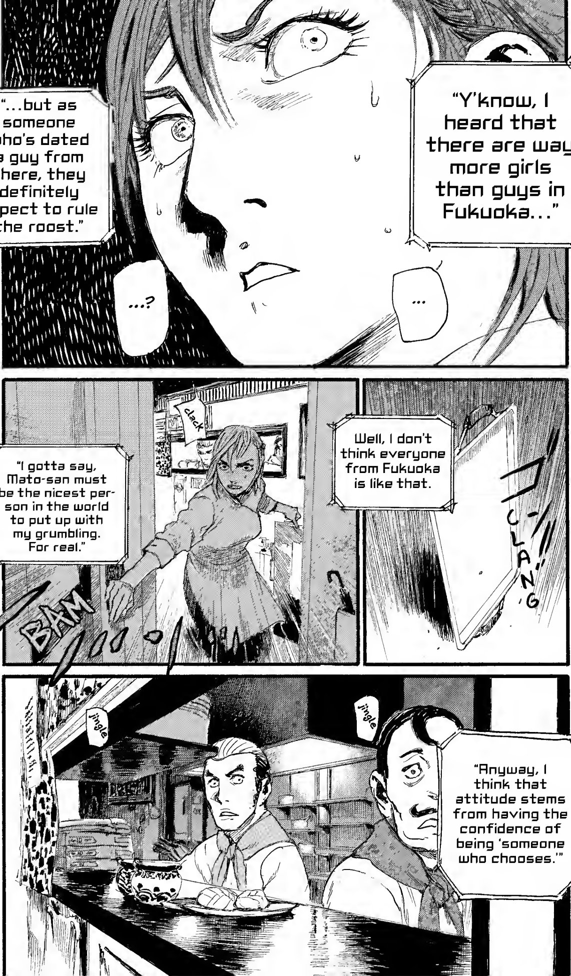

I TOLD YOU TO STOP SAYING THINGS LIKE COMPETITIVE MARKET AND SCHEME TO THE CUSTOMERS!
TELL THEM IT'S A DREAMLAND OF BREAD AND CURRY!
DREAMS!
SORRY. I JUST LOVE THE VARIETY SHOW VIBE.
I WAS HOOKED ON JOSHI-ANA NO BATSU.*

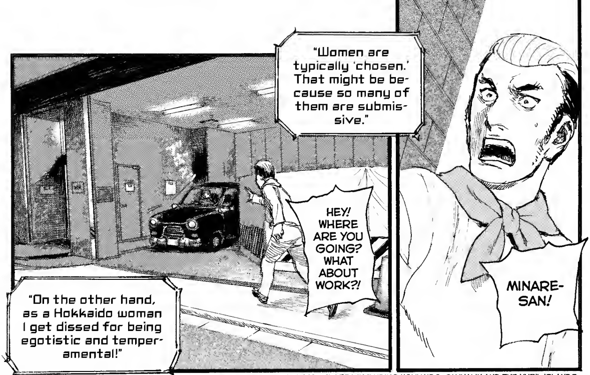
* A JAPANESE VARIETY SHOW WHERE FEMALE TV HOSTS ARE SUBJECT TO PRANKS AND PUNISHMENT GAMES.


That was Liz Phair's "White Chocolate Space egg."
I THINK A VARIETY SHOW VIBE WOULD FLOW BETTER, ANYWAY.
WE LIVE IN AN AGE WHERE PEOPLE'S SUPERFICIAL BULLSHIT IS EXPOSED ON THE INTERNET.
Next up we have our special feature that was announced last week!
HA-HA-HA...
"Street Corner Lost Love"... This lame name is only temporary, right, director?

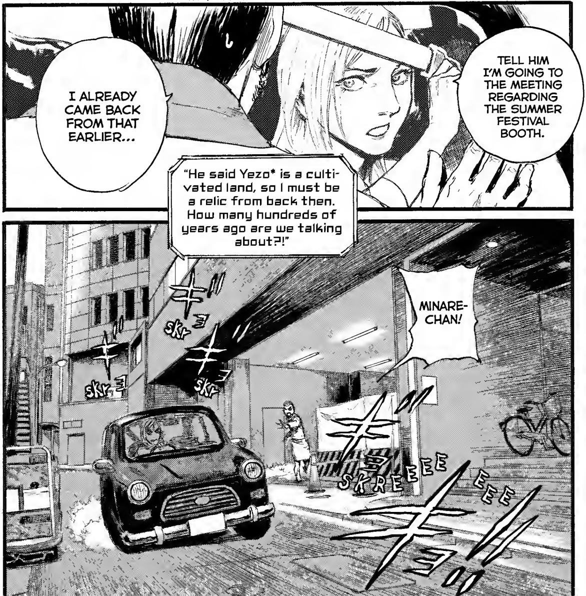

It seems the idea of this corner is to have the heartbroken people of Sapporo openly talk about their love woes and grudges.
Hmm. I get the feeling this corner might be in poor taste, *ha-ha*. Let's get a taste of what we're in for, shall we?
HOW CAN HE PLAY FM RADIO AND CALL THIS A DREAMLAND?
PUT ON SOME J-POP COVERS OF BOSSA NOVA AT LEAST.
YOU'D QUIT IN A HEARTBEAT IF THAT WERE THE CASE.
PROBABLY.
HA-HA.
"Can I be real with you for a sec? I think the localism that pops up in relationships is a pain in the ass."
"I probably shouldn't say this to someone from Fukuoka..."
HUH. DOESN'T THIS VOICE...
...KINDA SOUND LIKE YOU...
"...first born sons from the Kyushu region are the worst!"
...MINARE-SAN?
"They're so selfish! It's ridiculous!"
"They all just want to be pampered princes!"

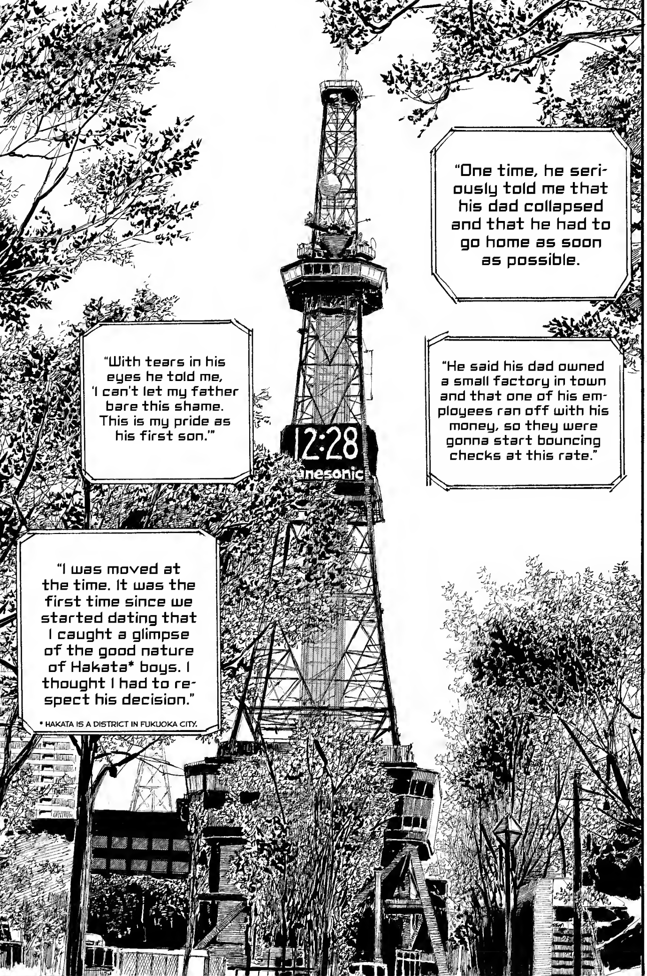

Q.

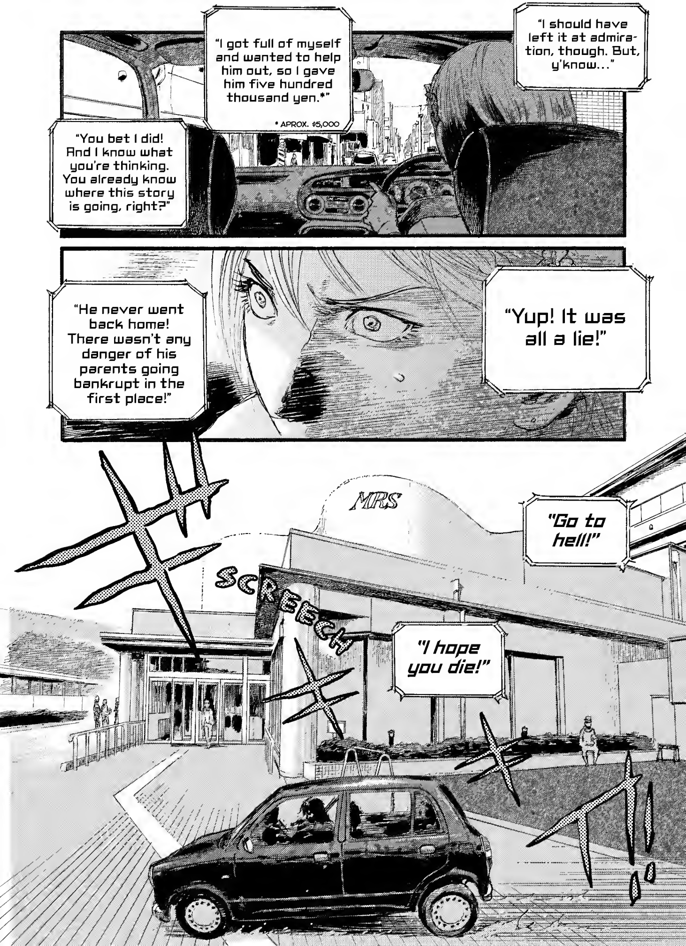

"Y'know, I heard that there are way more girls than guys in Fukuoka…"
"…but as someone who's dated a guy from there, they definitely expect to rule the roost."
…
…?
Well, I don't think everyone from Fukuoka is like that.
CLANG
clack
"I gotta say, Mato-san must be the nicest person in the world to put up with my grumbling. For real."
BAM
jingle
jingle
"Anyway, I think that attitude stems from having the confidence of being 'someone who chooses.'"

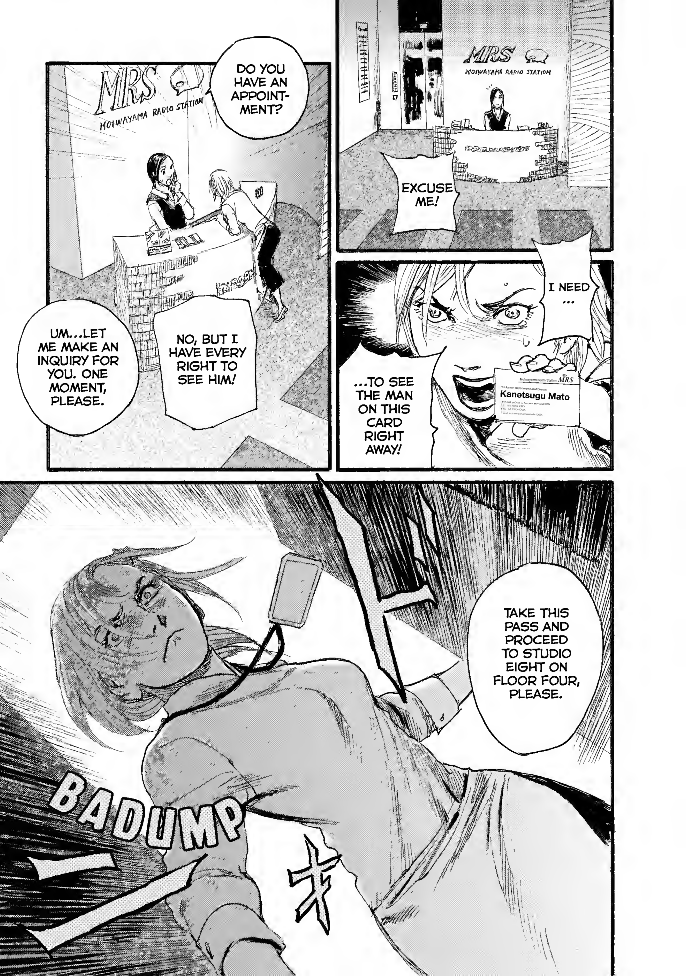

"Women are typically 'chosen.' That might be because so many of them are submissive."
MINARE-SAN!
HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WHAT ABOUT WORK?!
"On the other hand, as a Hokkaido woman I get dissed for being egotistic and temperamental!"

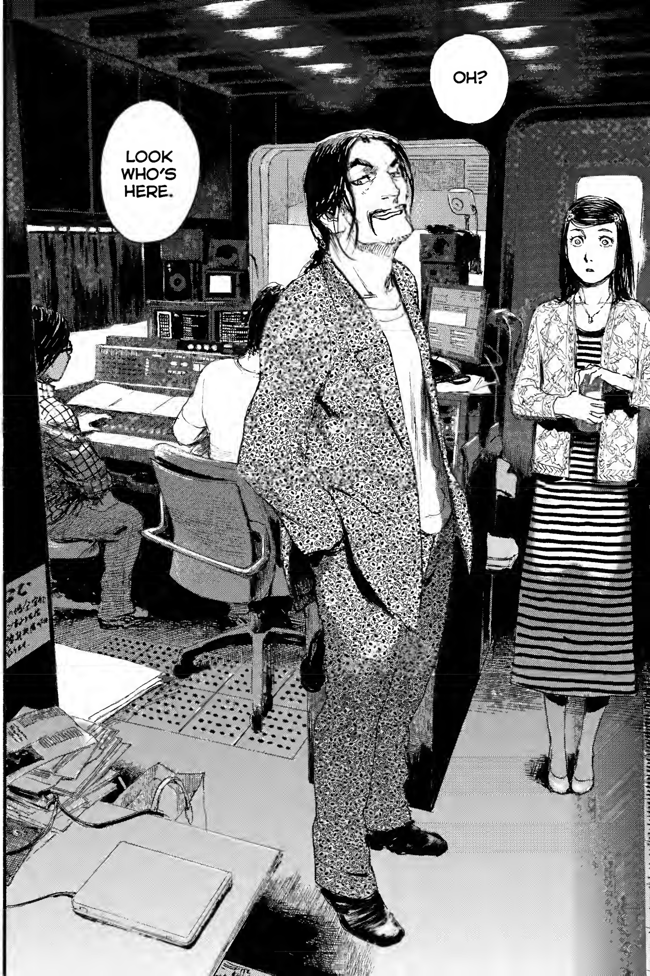
*YEZO, NORTHERN JAPAN IN THE MEIJI ERA INCLUDING HOKKAIDO, SAKHALIN AND THE KURIL ISLANDS.

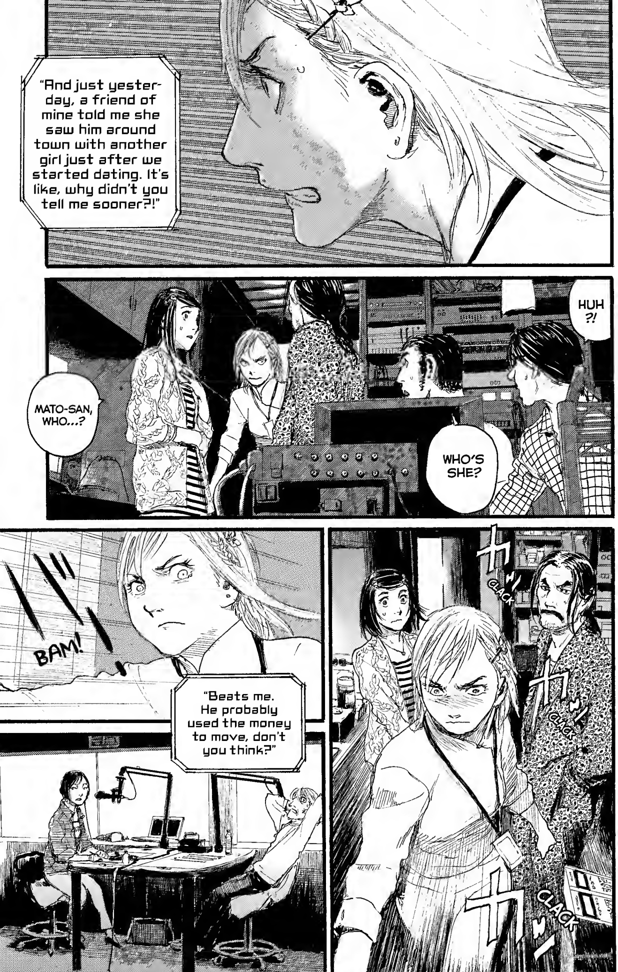

TELL HIM I'M GOING TO THE MEETING REGARDING THE SUMMER FESTIVAL BOOTH.
I ALREADY CAME BACK FROM THAT EARLIER...
"He said Yezo* is a cultivated land, so I must be a relic from back then. How many hundreds of years ago are we talking about?!"
MINARE-CHAN!
SKREEEEEEE
skr
skr
skr
skr

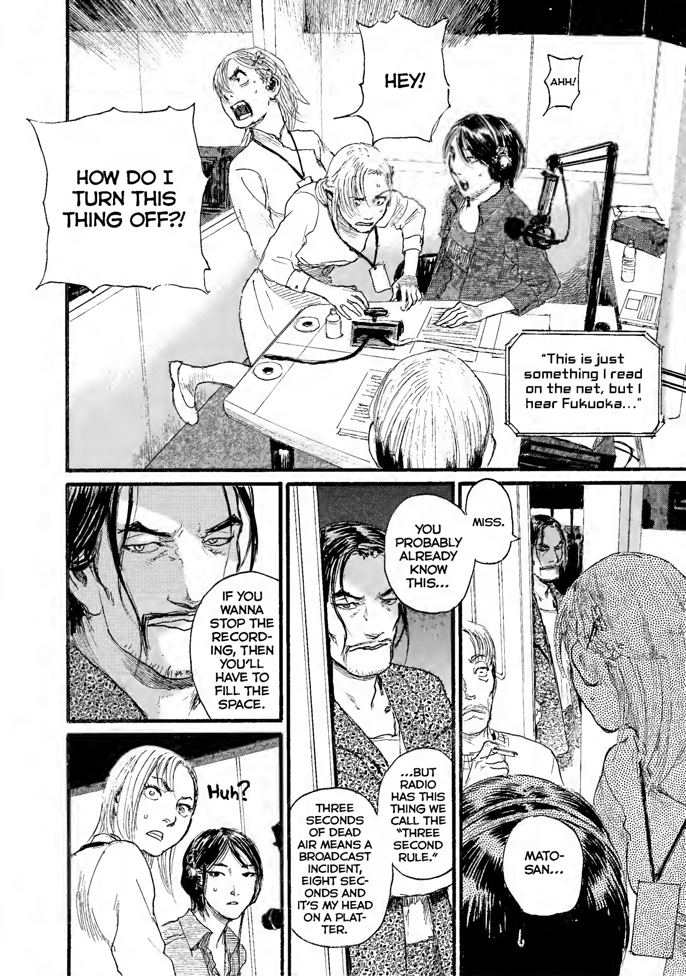

"One time, he seriously told me that his dad collapsed and that he had to go home as soon as possible.
"He said his dad owned a small factory in town and that one of his employees ran off with his money, so they were gonna start bouncing checks at this rate."
12:28
anesonic
"With tears in his eyes he told me, 'I can't let my father bare this shame. This is my pride as his first son.'"
"I was moved at the time. It was the first time since we started dating that I caught a glimpse of the good nature of Hakata* boys. I thought I had to respect his decision."
* HAKATA IS A DISTRICT IN FUKUOKA CITY.

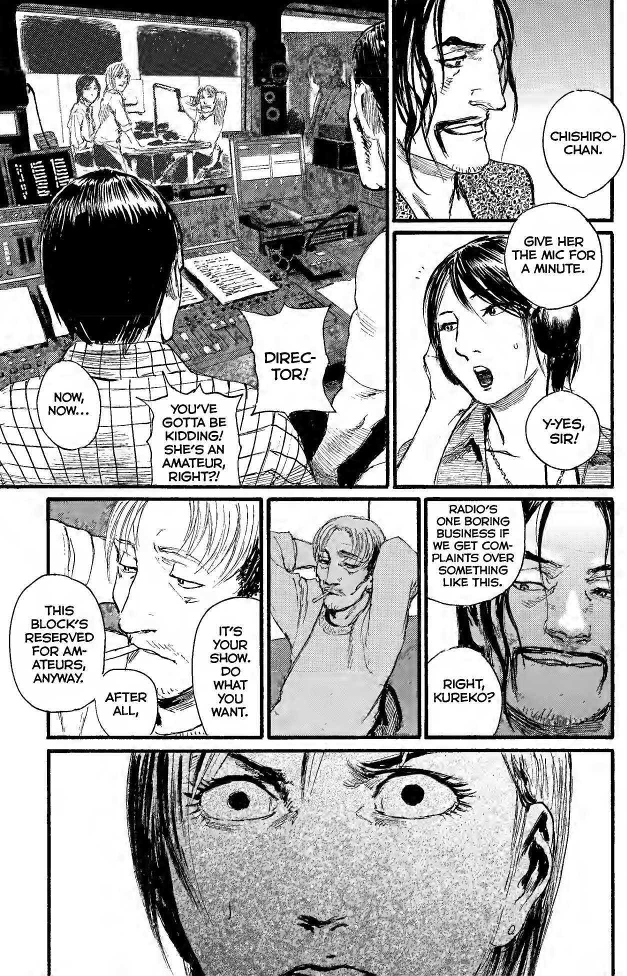

"I should have left it at admiration, though. But, y'know…"
"I got full of myself and wanted to help him out, so I gave him five hundred thousand yen.*"
* APROX. $5,000
"You bet I did! And I know what you're thinking. You already know where this story is going, right?"
"Yup! It was all a lie!"
"He never went back home! There wasn't any danger of his parents going bankrupt in the first place!"
MRS
"Go to hell!"
SCREECH
"I hope you die!"

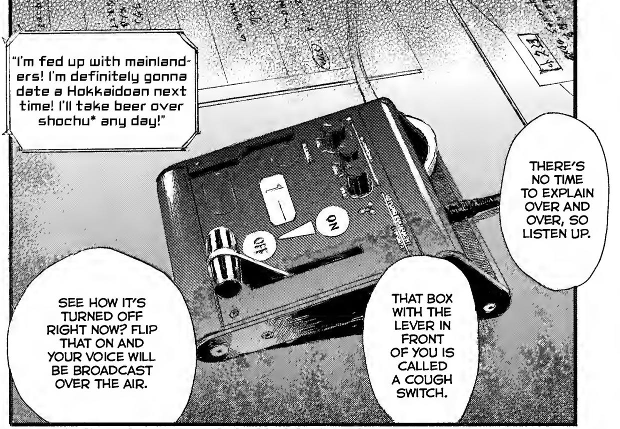

MRS
MOIWAYAMA RADIO STATION
EXCUSE ME!
DO YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT?
NO, BUT I HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO SEE HIM!
UM...LET ME MAKE AN INQUIRY FOR YOU. ONE MOMENT, PLEASE.
I NEED...
...TO SEE THE MAN ON THIS CARD RIGHT AWAY!
Moiwayama Radio Station MRS
Production Department Chief Director
Kanetsugu Mato
TAKE THIS PASS AND PROCEED TO STUDIO EIGHT ON FLOOR FOUR, PLEASE.
BADUMP


OH?
LOOK WHO'S HERE.

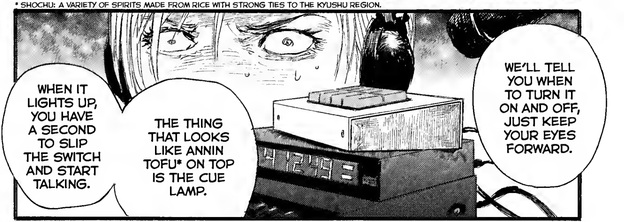

"And just yesterday, a friend of mine told me she saw him around town with another girl just after we started dating. It's like, why didn't you tell me sooner?!"
HUH?!
WHO'S SHE?
MATO-SAN, WHO...?
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
BAM!
"Beats me. He probably used the money to move, don't you think?"


AHH!
HEY!
HOW DO I TURN THIS THING OFF?!
"This is just something I read on the net, but I hear Fukuoka..."
MISS.
MATO-SAN...
YOU PROBABLY ALREADY KNOW THIS...
...BUT RADIO HAS THIS THING WE CALL THE "THREE SECOND RULE."
THREE SECONDS OF DEAD AIR MEANS A BROADCAST INCIDENT, EIGHT SECONDS AND IT'S MY HEAD ON A PLATTER.
IF YOU WANNA STOP THE RECORDING, THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO FILL THE SPACE.
Huh?

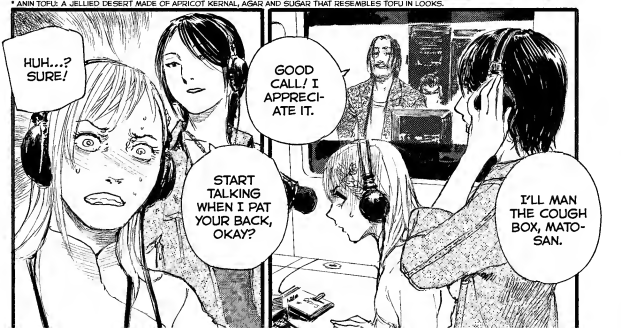

CHISHIRO-CHAN.
GIVE HER THE MIC FOR A MINUTE.
Y-YES, SIR!
DIRECTOR!
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING! SHE'S AN AMATEUR, RIGHT?!
NOW, NOW...
RADIO'S ONE BORING BUSINESS IF WE GET COMPLAINTS OVER SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
RIGHT, KUREKO?
IT'S YOUR SHOW. DO WHAT YOU WANT.
AFTER ALL,
THIS BLOCK'S RESERVED FOR AMATEURS, ANYWAY.

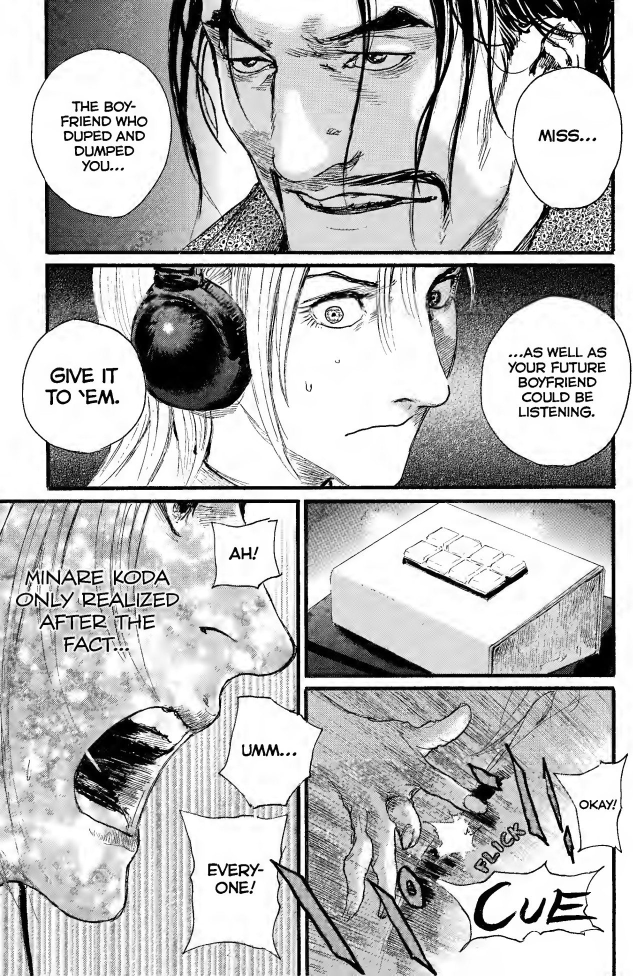

"I'm fed up with mainlanders! I'm definitely gonna date a Hokkaidoan next time! I'll take beer over shochu* any day!"
THERE'S NO TIME TO EXPLAIN OVER AND OVER, SO LISTEN UP.
THAT BOX WITH THE LEVER IN FRONT OF YOU IS CALLED A COUGH SWITCH.
SEE HOW IT'S TURNED OFF RIGHT NOW? FLIP THAT ON AND YOUR VOICE WILL BE BROADCAST OVER THE AIR.
ON
OFF

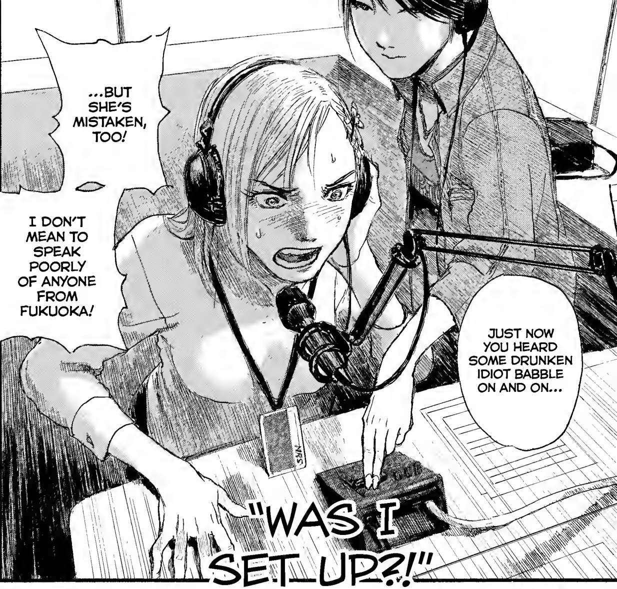
* SHOCHU: A VARIETY OF SPIRITS MADE FROM RICE WITH STRONG TIES TO THE KYUSHU REGION.

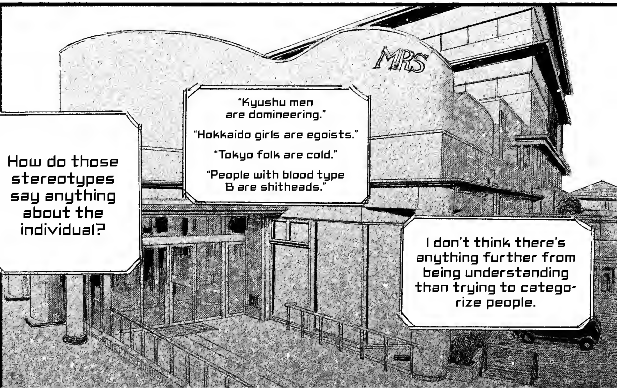

WE'LL TELL YOU WHEN TO TURN IT ON AND OFF, JUST KEEP YOUR EYES FORWARD.
THE THING THAT LOOKS LIKE ANNIN TOFU* ON TOP IS THE CUE LAMP.
WHEN IT LIGHTS UP, YOU HAVE A SECOND TO SLIP THE SWITCH AND START TALKING.

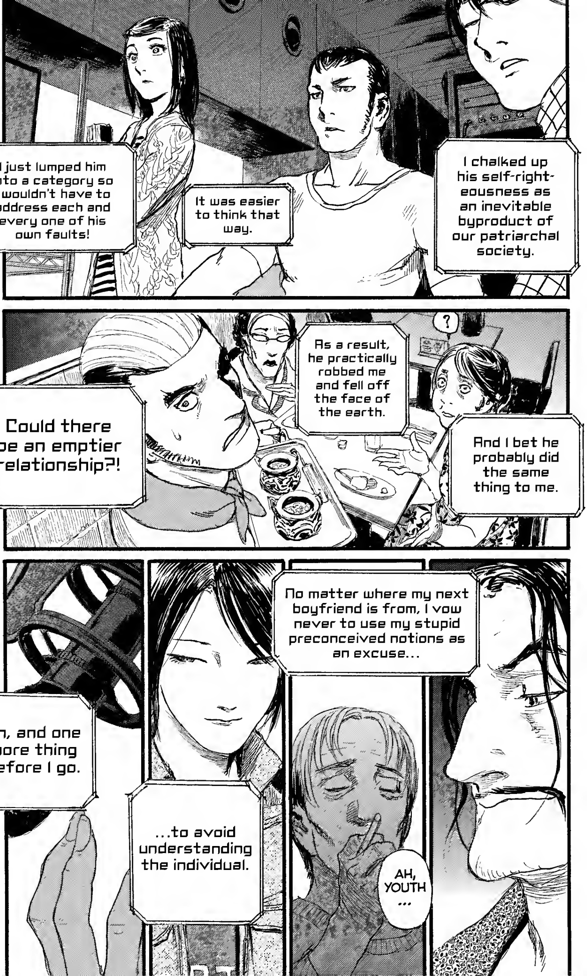
* ANIN TOFU: A JELLIED DESERT MADE OF APRICOT KERNAL, AGAR AND SUGAR THAT RESEMBLES TOFU IN LOOKS.

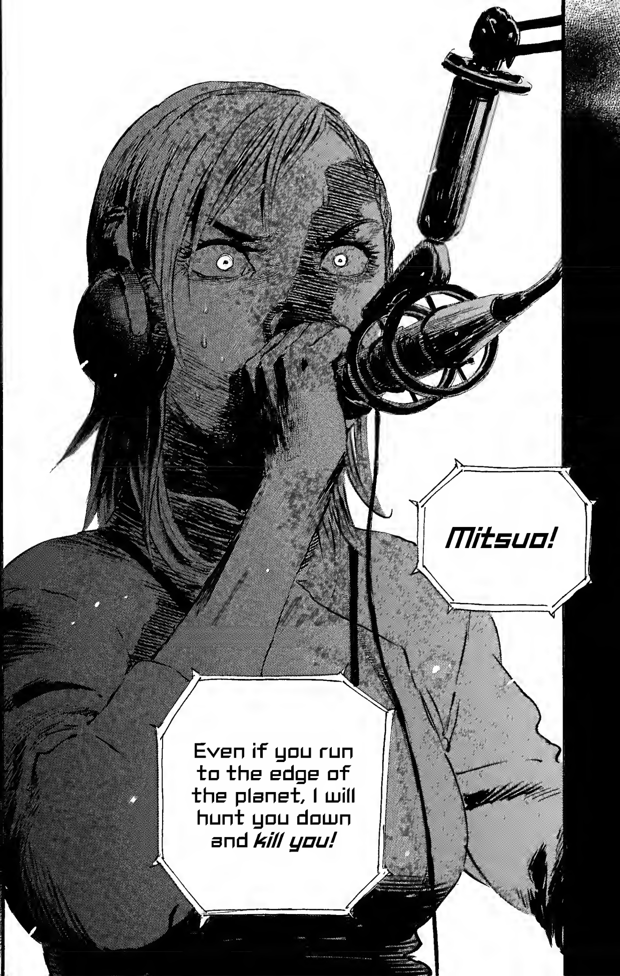

I'LL MAN THE COUGH BOX, MATO-SAN.
GOOD CALL! I APPRECIATE IT.
START TALKING WHEN I PAT YOUR BACK, OKAY?
HUH...? SURE!

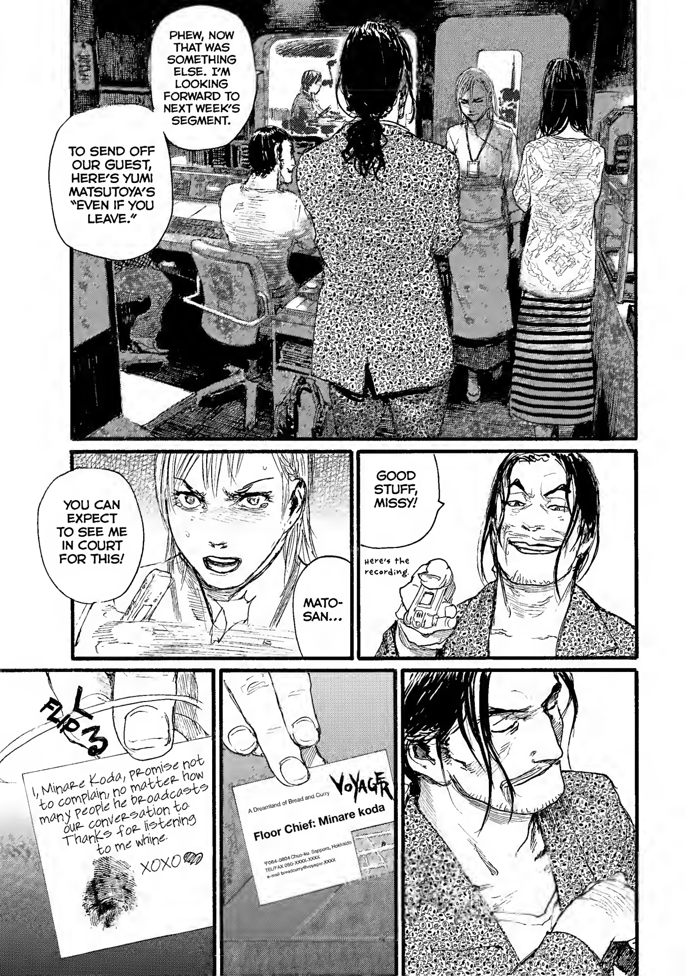

MISS...
THE BOYFRIEND WHO DUPED AND DUMPED YOU...
...AS WELL AS YOUR FUTURE BOYFRIEND COULD BE LISTENING.
GIVE IT TO 'EM.
OKAY!
FLICK
CUE
AH!
MINARE KODA ONLY REALIZED AFTER THE FACT...
UMM...
EVERYONE!

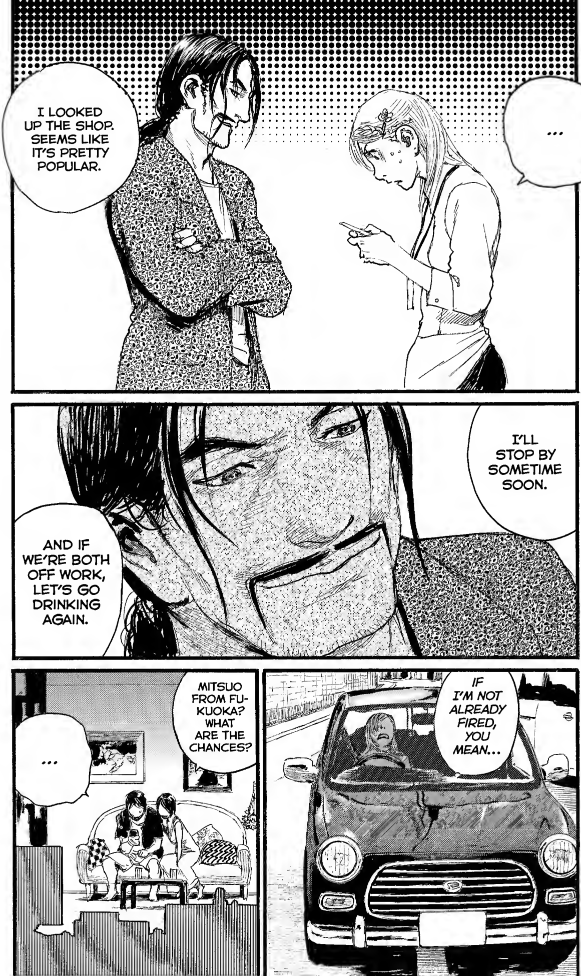

JUST NOW YOU HEARD SOME DRUNKEN IDIOT BABBLE ON AND ON...
I DON'T MEAN TO SPEAK POORLY OF ANYONE FROM FUKUOKA!
...BUT SHE'S MISTAKEN, TOO!
MRS
"WAS I SET UP?!"


MRS
"Kyushu men are domineering."
"Hokkaido girls are egoists."
"Tokyo folk are cold."
"People with blood type B are shitheads."
How do those stereotypes say anything about the individual?
I don't think there's anything further from being understanding than trying to categorize people.

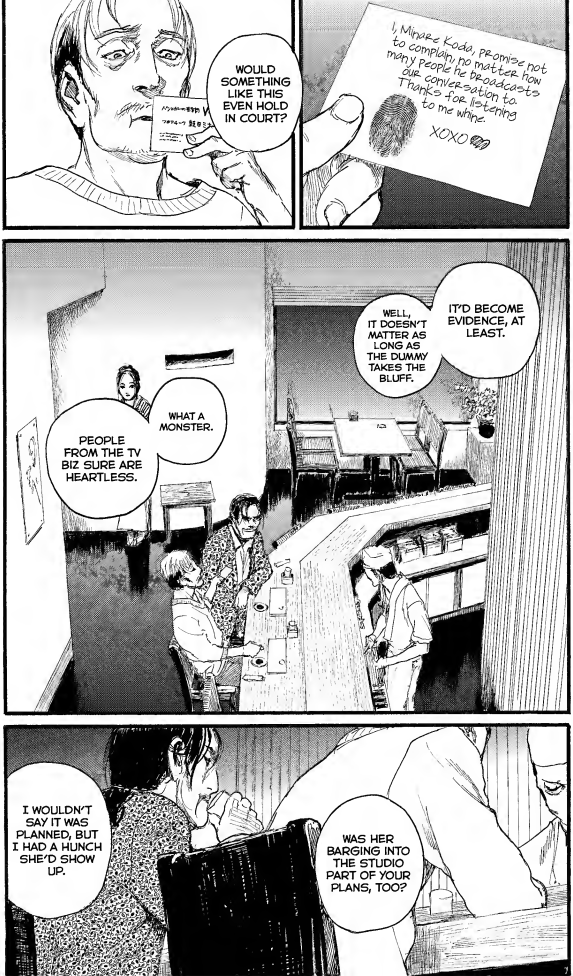

I chalked up his self-righteousness as an inevitable byproduct of our patriarchal society.
It was easier to think that way.
I just lumped him into a category so I wouldn't have to address each and every one of his own faults!
?
And I bet he probably did the same thing to me.
As a result, he practically robbed me and fell off the face of the earth.
Could there be an emptier relationship?!
No matter where my next boyfriend is from, I vow never to use my stupid preconceived notions as an excuse...
...to avoid understanding the individual.
AH, YOUTH...
Oh, and one more thing before I go.

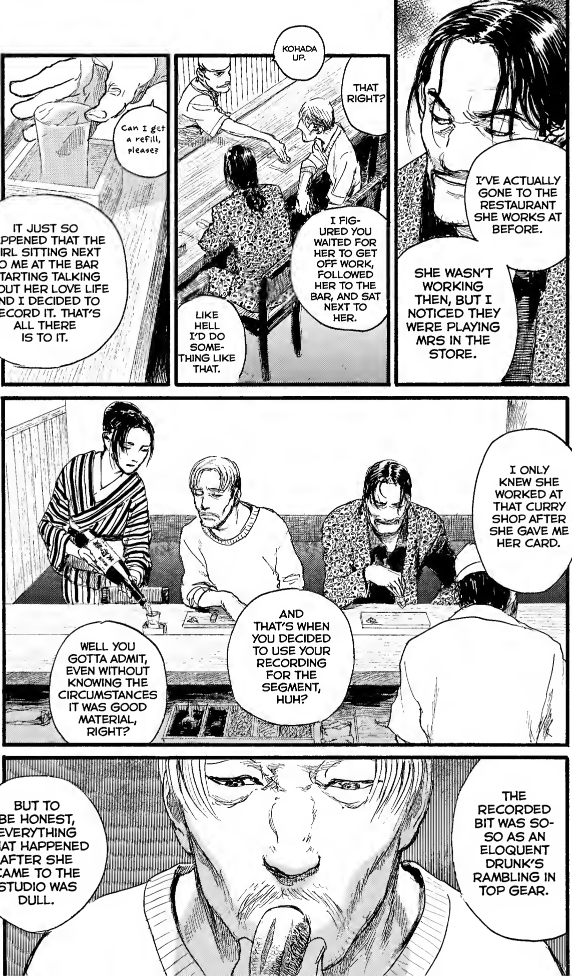

Mitsuo!
Even if you run to the edge of the planet, I will hunt you down and *kill you!*

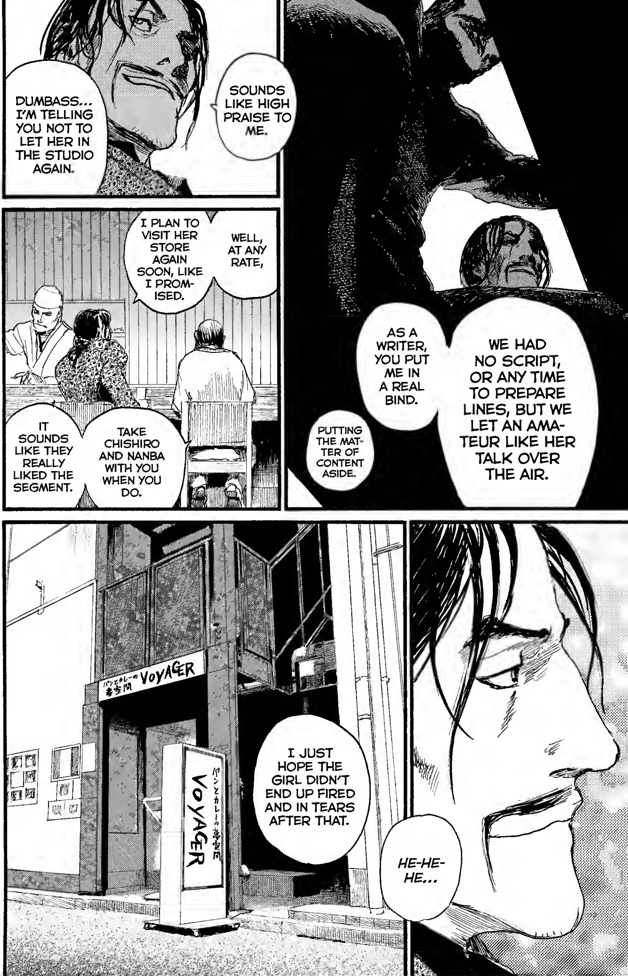

PHEW, NOW THAT WAS SOMETHING ELSE. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK'S SEGMENT.
TO SEND OFF OUR GUEST, HERE'S YUMI MATSUTOYA'S "EVEN IF YOU LEAVE."
GOOD STUFF, MISSY!
Here's the recording.
YOU CAN EXPECT TO SEE ME IN COURT FOR THIS!
MATO-SAN...
VOYAGER
A Dreamland of Bread and Curry
Floor Chief: Minare koda
〒064-0804 Chuo-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido
TEL/FAX 050-XXXX-XXXX
e-mail breadcurry@voyager.XXXX
FLIP
I, Minare Koda, promise not to complain, no matter how many people he broadcasts our conversation to. Thanks for listening to me whine.
XOXO

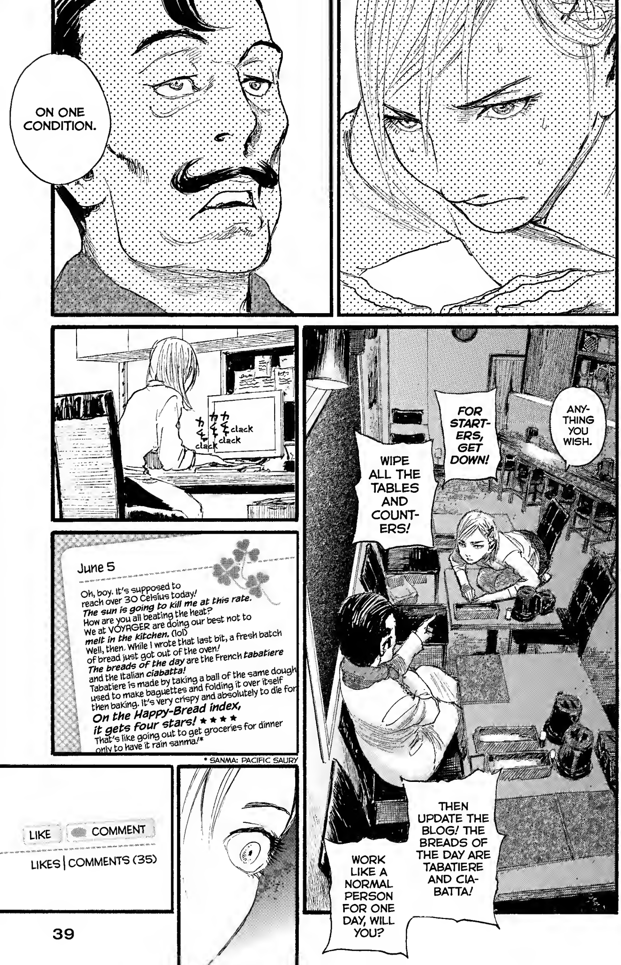

...
I LOOKED UP THE SHOP. SEEMS LIKE IT'S PRETTY POPULAR.
I'LL STOP BY SOMETIME SOON.
AND IF WE'RE BOTH OFF WORK, LET'S GO DRINKING AGAIN.
IF I'M NOT ALREADY FIRED, YOU MEAN...
MITSUO FROM FUKUOKA? WHAT ARE THE CHANCES?
...

Chapter 2 「I WANT YOU」


I, Minare Koda, promise not to complain, no matter how many people he broadcasts our conversation to. Thanks for listening to me whine.
XOXO
WOULD SOMETHING LIKE THIS EVEN HOLD IN COURT?
IT'D BECOME EVIDENCE, AT LEAST.
WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER AS LONG AS THE DUMMY TAKES THE BLUFF.
WHAT A MONSTER.
PEOPLE FROM THE TV BIZ SURE ARE HEARTLESS.
WAS HER BARGING INTO THE STUDIO PART OF YOUR PLANS, TOO?
I WOULDN'T SAY IT WAS PLANNED, BUT I HAD A HUNCH SHE'D SHOW UP.


I'VE ACTUALLY GONE TO THE RESTAURANT SHE WORKS AT BEFORE.
SHE WASN'T WORKING THEN, BUT I NOTICED THEY WERE PLAYING MRS IN THE STORE.
KOHADA UP.
THAT RIGHT?
I FIGURED YOU WAITED FOR HER TO GET OFF WORK, FOLLOWED HER TO THE BAR, AND SAT NEXT TO HER.
LIKE HELL I'D DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
Can I get a refill, please?
IT JUST SO HAPPENED THAT THE GIRL SITTING NEXT TO ME AT THE BAR STARTING TALKING ABOUT HER LOVE LIFE AND I DECIDED TO RECORD IT. THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.
I ONLY KNEW SHE WORKED AT THAT CURRY SHOP AFTER SHE GAVE ME HER CARD.
AND THAT'S WHEN YOU DECIDED TO USE YOUR RECORDING FOR THE SEGMENT, HUH?
WELL YOU GOTTA ADMIT, EVEN WITHOUT KNOWING THE CIRCUMSTANCES IT WAS GOOD MATERIAL, RIGHT?
THE RECORDED BIT WAS SO-SO AS AN ELOQUENT DRUNK'S RAMBLING IN TOP GEAR.
BUT TO BE HONEST, EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED AFTER SHE CAME TO THE STUDIO WAS DULL.


WE HAD NO SCRIPT, OR ANY TIME TO PREPARE LINES, BUT WE LET AN AMATEUR LIKE HER TALK OVER THE AIR.
AS A WRITER, YOU PUT ME IN A REAL BIND.
PUTTING THE MATTER OF CONTENT ASIDE.
SOUNDS LIKE HIGH PRAISE TO ME.
DUMBASS... I'M TELLING YOU NOT TO LET HER IN THE STUDIO AGAIN.
WELL, AT ANY RATE,
I PLAN TO VISIT HER STORE AGAIN SOON, LIKE I PROMISED.
TAKE CHISHIRO AND NANBA WITH YOU WHEN YOU DO.
IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY REALLY LIKED THE SEGMENT.
HE-HE-HE...
I JUST HOPE THE GIRL DIDN'T END UP FIRED AND IN TEARS AFTER THAT.
パンとカレーの書空間 VOYAGER
パンとカレーの書空間 VOYAGER


ON ONE CONDITION.
ANYTHING YOU WISH.
FOR STARTERS, GET DOWN!
WIPE ALL THE TABLES AND COUNTERS!
THEN UPDATE THE BLOG! THE BREADS OF THE DAY ARE TABATIERE AND CIABATTA!
WORK LIKE A NORMAL PERSON FOR ONE DAY, WILL YOU?
カタカタ
clack
clack
clack

June 5

Oh, boy. It's supposed to reach over 30 Celsius today!
The sun is going to kill me at this rate.
How are you all beating the heat?
We at VOYAGER are doing our best not to *melt in the kitchen.* (lol)
Well, then. While I wrote that last bit, a fresh batch of bread just got out of the oven!
The breads of the day are the French *tabatiere* and the Italian *ciabatta!*
Tabatiere is made by taking a ball of the same dough used to make baguettes and folding it over itself then baking. It's very crispy and absolutely to die for.
On the Happy-Bread index, it gets four stars! ★★★★
That's like going out to get groceries for dinner only to have it rain sanma!*

LIKE COMMENT

LIKES | COMMENTS (35)

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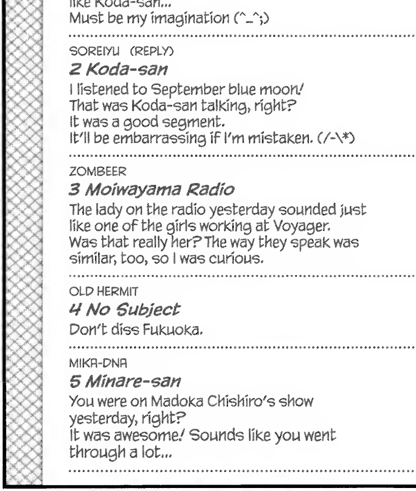
* SANMA: PACIFIC SAURY



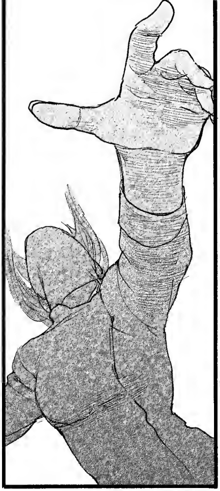
like Koda-san...
Must be my imagination (^_^;)

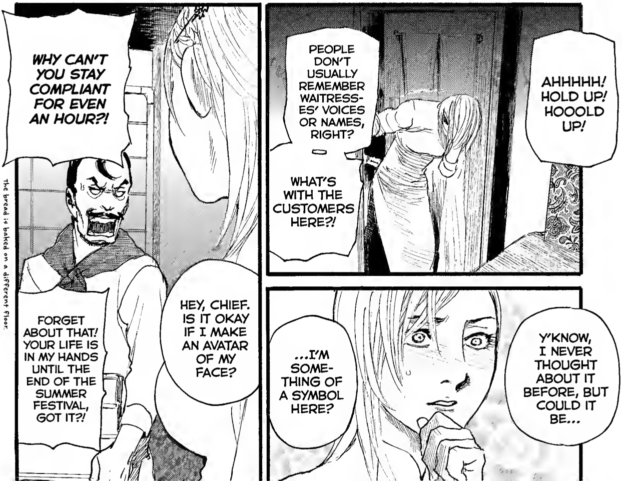
SOREIYU (REPLY)
2 Koda-san
I listened to September blue moon!
That was Koda-san talking, right?
It was a good segment.
It'll be embarrassing if I'm mistaken. (/-*)

ZOMBEER
3 Moiwayama Radio
The lady on the radio yesterday sounded just like one of the girls working at Voyager.
Was that really her? The way they speak was similar, too, so I was curious.

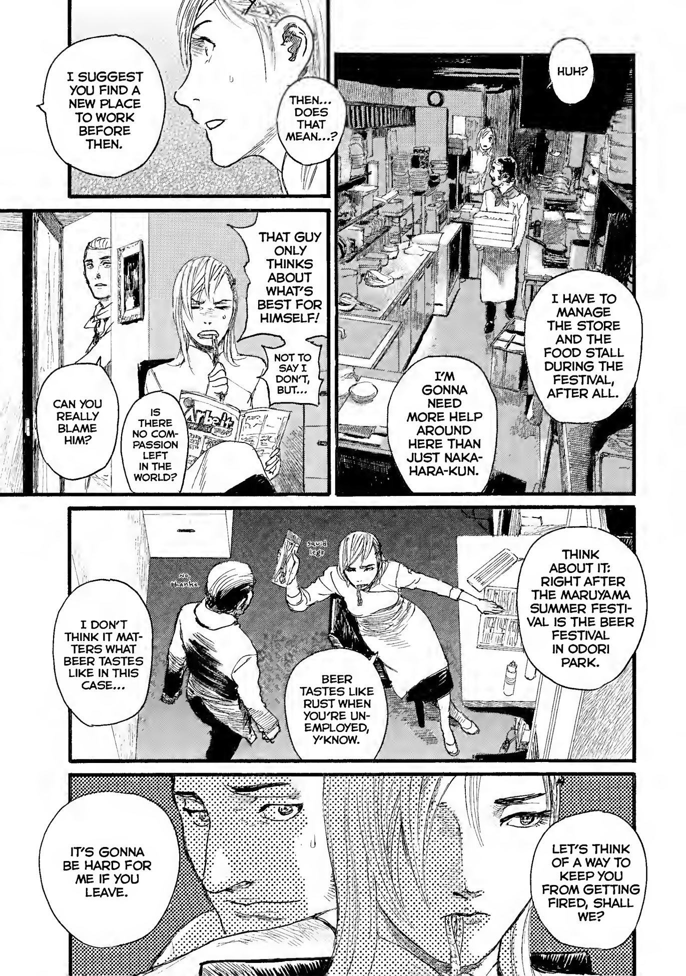
OLD HERMIT
4 No Subject
Don't diss Fukuoka.

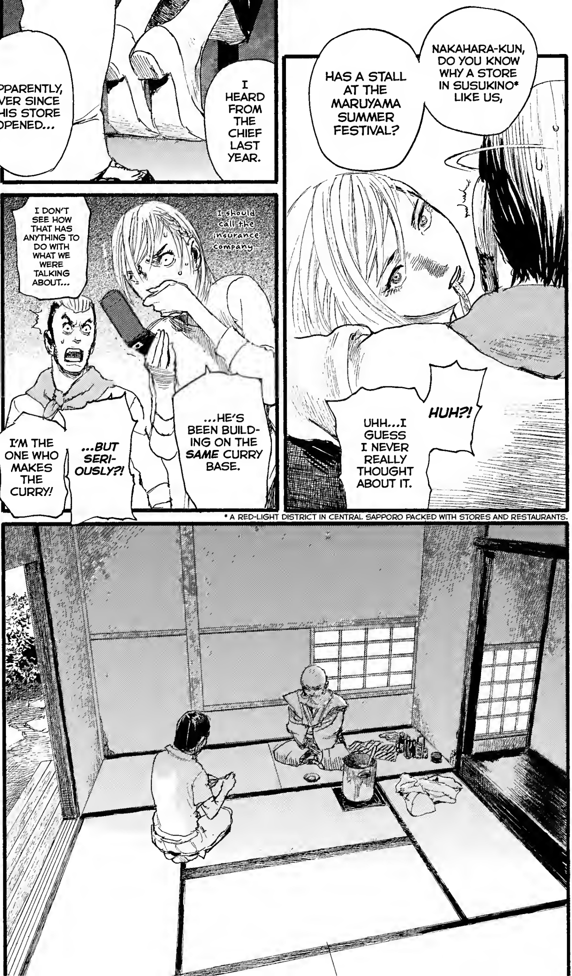
MIKA-DNA
5 Minare-san
You were on Madoka Chishiro's show yesterday, right?
It was awesome! Sounds like you went through a lot...



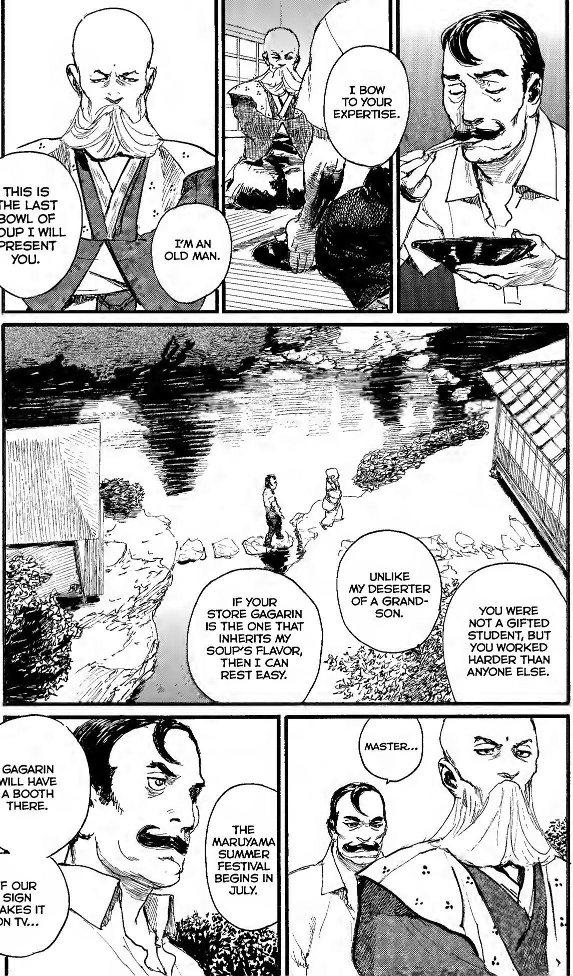

AHHHHH! HOLD UP! HOOOLD UP!
PEOPLE DON'T USUALLY REMEMBER WAITRESSES' VOICES OR NAMES, RIGHT?
WHAT'S WITH THE CUSTOMERS HERE?!
Y'KNOW, I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT BEFORE, BUT COULD IT BE...
...I'M SOMETHING OF A SYMBOL HERE?
HEY, CHIEF. IS IT OKAY IF I MAKE AN AVATAR OF MY FACE?
WHY CAN'T YOU STAY COMPLIANT FOR EVEN AN HOUR?!
FORGET ABOUT THAT! YOUR LIFE IS IN MY HANDS UNTIL THE END OF THE SUMMER FESTIVAL, GOT IT?!

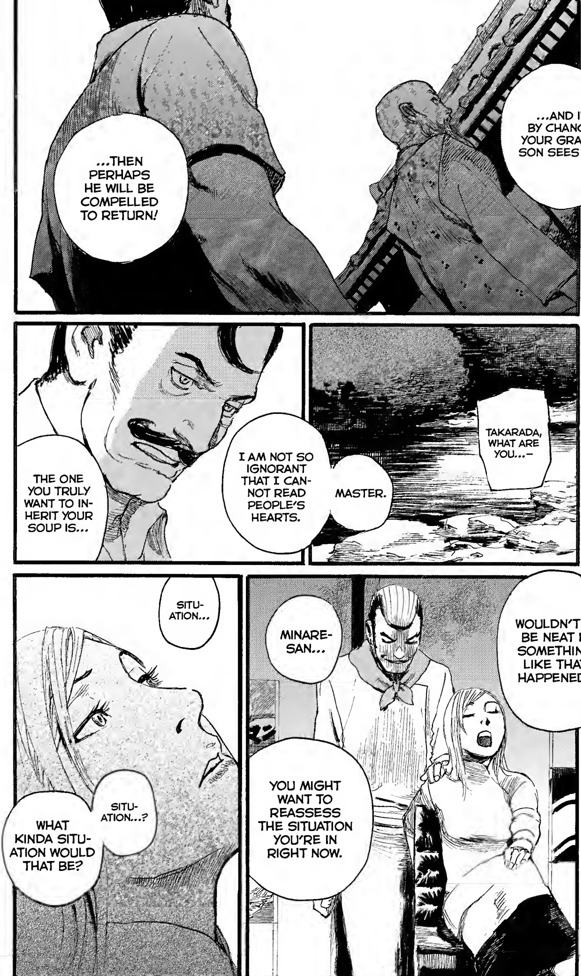
The bread is baked on a different floor

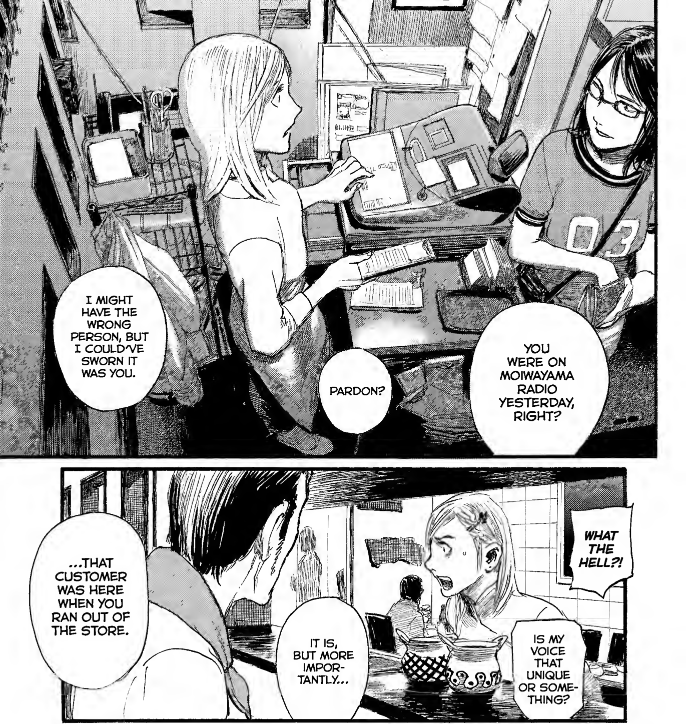

I SUGGEST YOU FIND A NEW PLACE TO WORK BEFORE THEN.
THEN... DOES THAT MEAN...?
HUH?
I HAVE TO MANAGE THE STORE AND THE FOOD STALL DURING THE FESTIVAL, AFTER ALL.
I'M GONNA NEED MORE HELP AROUND HERE THAN JUST NAKAHARA-KUN.
THAT GUY ONLY THINKS ABOUT WHAT'S BEST FOR HIMSELF!
NOT TO SAY I DON'T, BUT...
IS THERE NO COMPASSION LEFT IN THE WORLD?
CAN YOU REALLY BLAME HIM?
Arbeit
THINK ABOUT IT: RIGHT AFTER THE MARUYAMA SUMMER FESTIVAL IS THE BEER FESTIVAL IN ODORI PARK.
squid legs
BEER TASTES LIKE RUST WHEN YOU'RE UNEMPLOYED, Y'KNOW.
No, thanks.
I DON'T THINK IT MATTERS WHAT BEER TASTES LIKE IN THIS CASE...
LET'S THINK OF A WAY TO KEEP YOU FROM GETTING FIRED, SHALL WE?
IT'S GONNA BE HARD FOR ME IF YOU LEAVE.

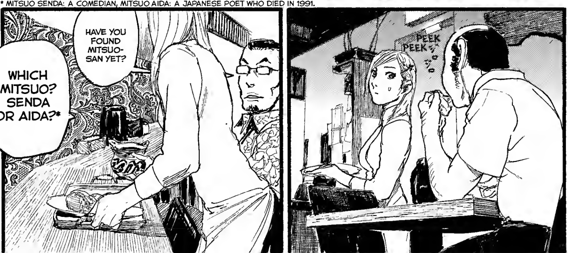

NAKAHARA-KUN, DO YOU KNOW WHY A STORE IN SUSUKINO* LIKE US,
HAS A STALL AT THE MARUYAMA SUMMER FESTIVAL?
HUH?!
UHH...I GUESS I NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
I HEARD FROM THE CHIEF LAST YEAR.
APPARENTLY, EVER SINCE THIS STORE OPENED...
...HE'S BEEN BUILDING ON THE SAME CURRY BASE.
...BUT SERIOUSLY?!
I'M THE ONE WHO MAKES THE CURRY!
I should call the insurance company...
I DON'T SEE HOW THAT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT...

* A RED-LIGHT DISTRICT IN CENTRAL SAPPORO PACKED WITH STORES AND RESTAURANTS.

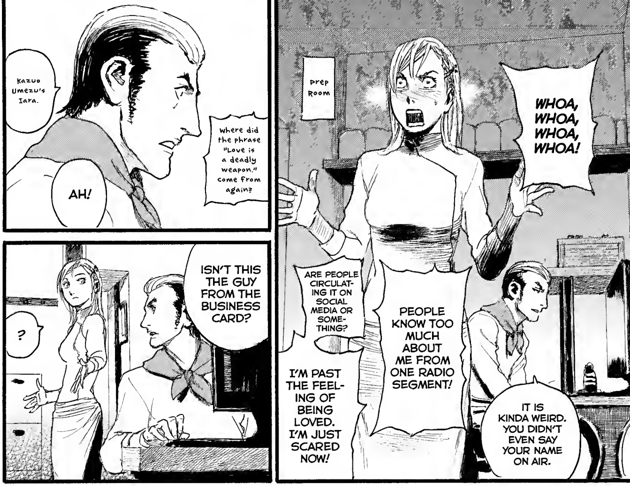

I BOW TO YOUR EXPERTISE.
I'M AN OLD MAN.
THIS IS THE LAST BOWL OF SOUP I WILL PRESENT YOU.
YOU WERE NOT A GIFTED STUDENT, BUT YOU WORKED HARDER THAN ANYONE ELSE.
UNLIKE MY DESERTER OF A GRANDSON.
IF YOUR STORE GAGARIN IS THE ONE THAT INHERITS MY SOUP'S FLAVOR, THEN I CAN REST EASY.
MASTER...
THE MARUYAMA SUMMER FESTIVAL BEGINS IN JULY.
GAGARIN WILL HAVE A BOOTH THERE.
IF OUR SIGN MAKES IT ON TV...

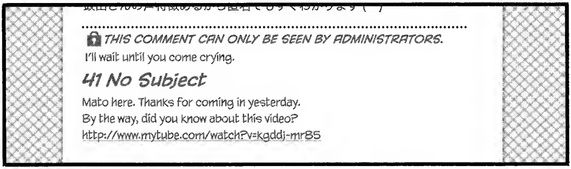

...AND IF BY CHANCE, YOUR GRANDSON SEES IT...
...THEN PERHAPS HE WILL BE COMPELLED TO RETURN!
TAKARADA, WHAT ARE YOU...—
MASTER.
I AM NOT SO IGNORANT THAT I CANNOT READ PEOPLE'S HEARTS.
THE ONE YOU TRULY WANT TO INHERIT YOUR SOUP IS...
WOULDN'T IT BE NEAT IF SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED?
MINARE-SAN...
YOU MIGHT WANT TO REASSESS THE SITUATION YOU'RE IN RIGHT NOW.
SITUATION...
SITUATION...?
WHAT KINDA SITUATION WOULD THAT BE?


YOU WERE ON MOIWAYAMA RADIO YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
PARDON?
I MIGHT HAVE THE WRONG PERSON, BUT I COULD'VE SWORN IT WAS YOU.
WHAT THE HELL?!
IS MY VOICE THAT UNIQUE OR SOMETHING?
IT IS, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY...
...THAT CUSTOMER WAS HERE WHEN YOU RAN OUT OF THE STORE.


PEEK PEEK
HAVE YOU FOUND MITSUO-SAN YET?
WHICH MITSUO? SENDA OR AIDA?*

* MITSUO SENDA: A COMEDIAN, MITSUO AIDA: A JAPANESE POET WHO DIED IN 1991.


Prep Room
WHOA, WHOA, WHOA, WHOA!
PEOPLE KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT ME FROM ONE RADIO SEGMENT!
ARE PEOPLE CIRCULATING IT ON SOCIAL MEDIA OR SOMETHING?
I'M PAST THE FEELING OF BEING LOVED. I'M JUST SCARED NOW!
IT IS KINDA WEIRD. YOU DIDN'T EVEN SAY YOUR NAME ON AIR.
Kazuo Umezu's Iara.
Where did the phrase "Love is a deadly weapon." come from again?
AH!
ISN'T THIS THE GUY FROM THE BUSINESS CARD?
?

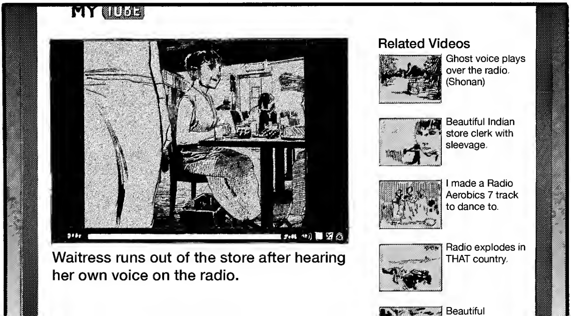


THIS COMMENT CAN ONLY BE SEEN BY ADMINISTRATORS.

I'll wait until you come crying.

41 No Subject

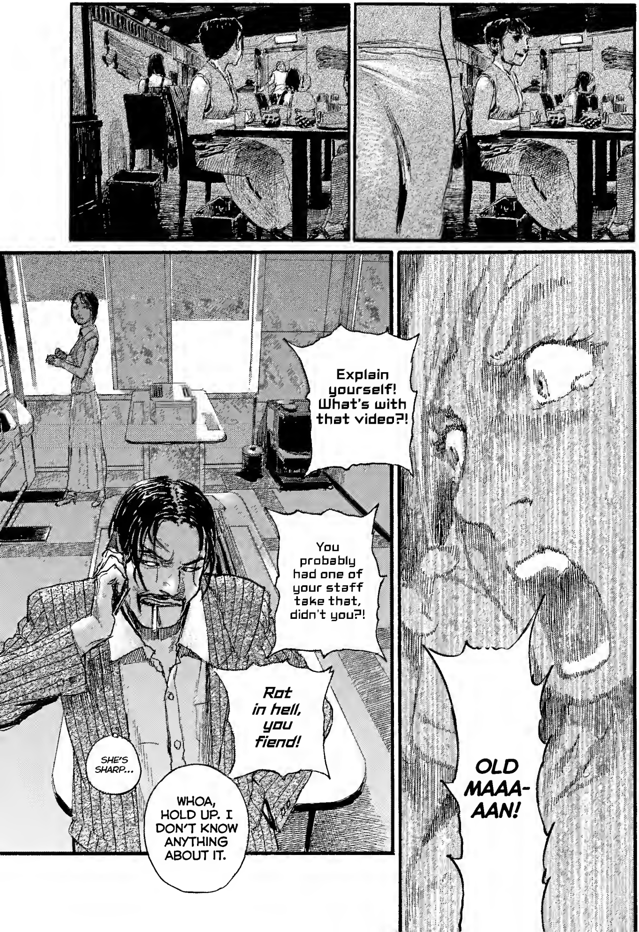
Mato here. Thanks for coming in yesterday.
By the way, did you know about this video?
http://www.mytube.com/watch?v=kgddj-mr85

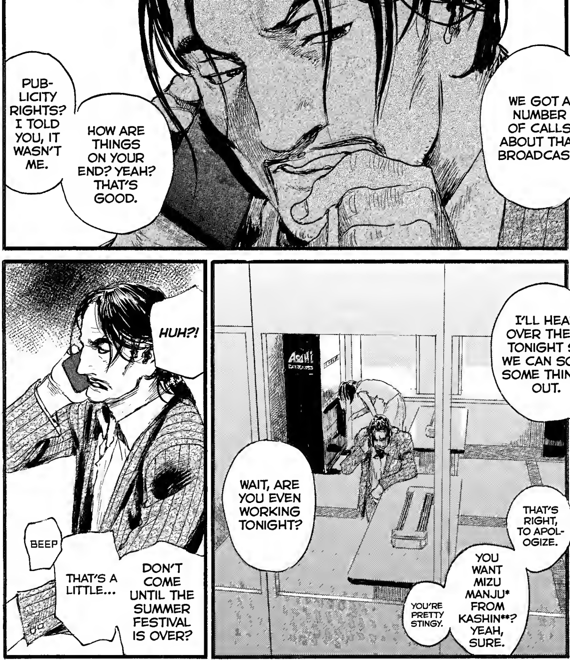


Waitress runs out of the store after hearing her own voice on the radio.

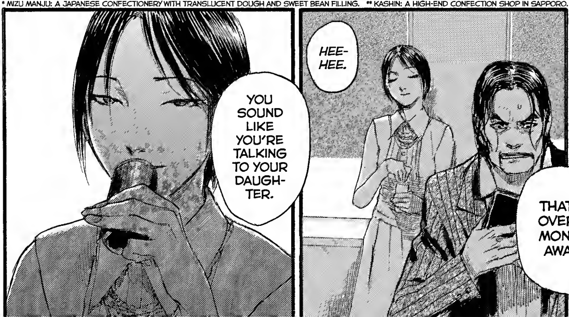
Related Videos

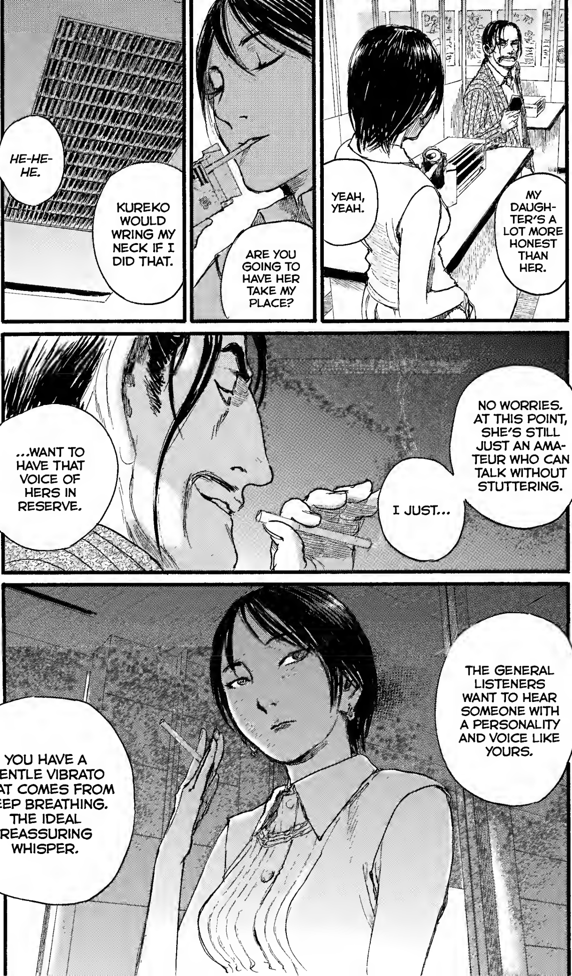
- Ghost voice plays over the radio. (Shonan)
- Beautiful Indian store clerk with sleevage.
- I made a Radio Aerobics 7 track to dance to.
- Radio explodes in THAT country.
- Beautiful

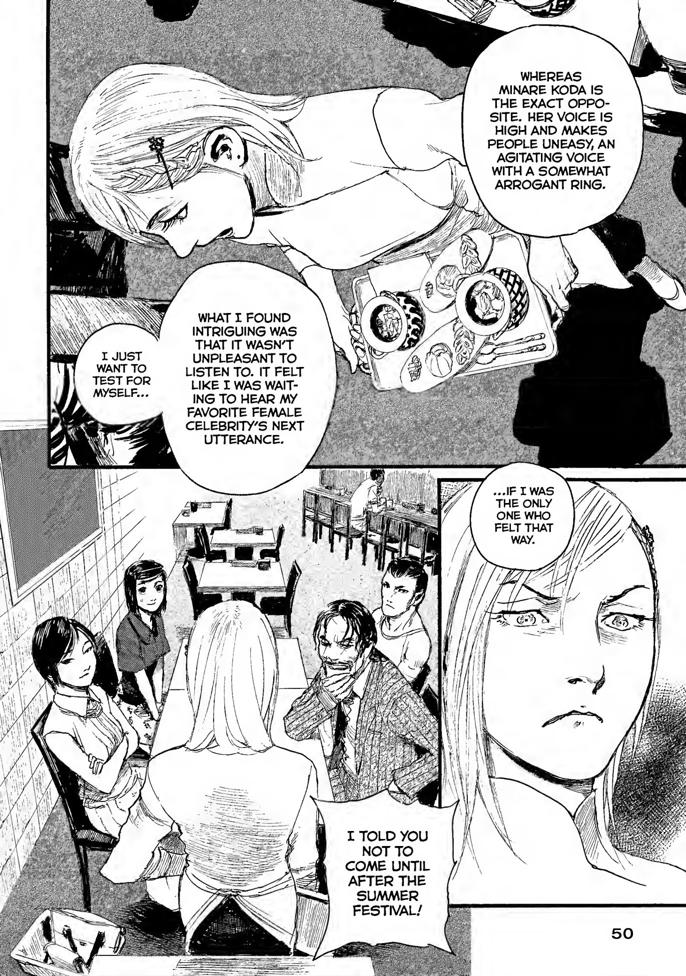

OLD MAAAA-AAN!
Explain yourself! What's with that video?!
You probably had one of your staff take that, didn't you?!
Rot in hell, you fiend!
SHE'S SHARP...
WHOA, HOLD UP. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

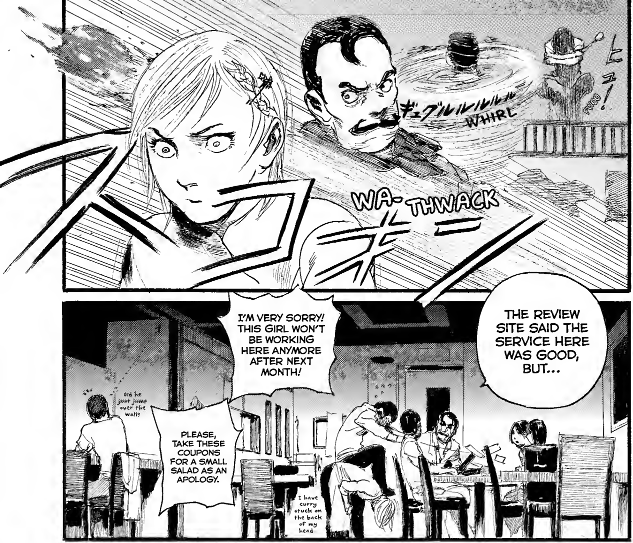

WE GOT A NUMBER OF CALLS ABOUT THAT BROADCAST.
HOW ARE THINGS ON YOUR END? YEAH? THAT'S GOOD.
PUBLICITY RIGHTS? I TOLD YOU, IT WASN'T ME.
I'LL HEAD OVER THERE TONIGHT SO WE CAN SORT SOME THINGS OUT.
THAT'S RIGHT, TO APOLOGIZE.
YOU WANT MIZU MANJU* FROM KASHIN**? YEAH, SURE.
YOU'RE PRETTY STINGY.
WAIT, ARE YOU EVEN WORKING TONIGHT?
ASAHI
HUH?!
DON'T COME UNTIL THE SUMMER FESTIVAL IS OVER?
THAT'S A LITTLE...
BEEP

* MIZU MANJU: A JAPANESE CONFECTIONERY WITH TRANSLUCENT DOUGH AND SWEET BEAN FILLING. ** KASHIN: A HIGH-END CONFECTION SHOP IN SAPPORO.

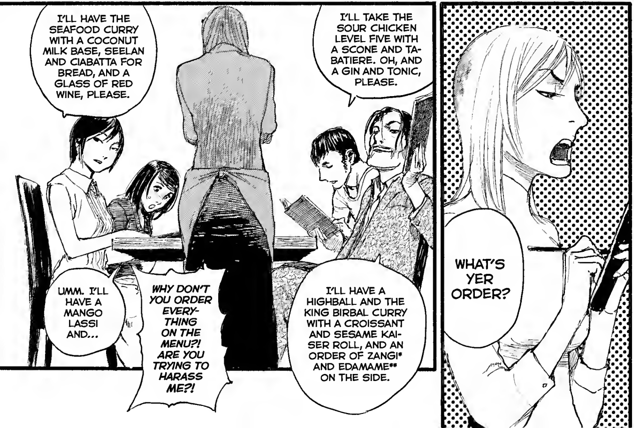

HEE-HEE.
THAT'S OVER A MONTH AWAY.
YOU SOUND LIKE YOU'RE TALKING TO YOUR DAUGHTER.

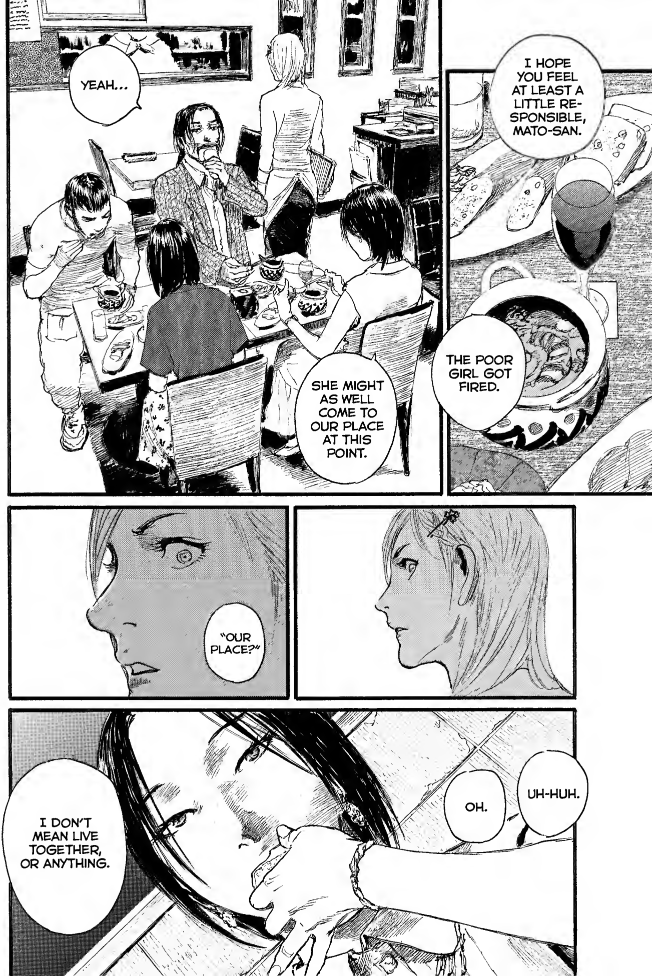

MY DAUGHTER'S A LOT MORE HONEST THAN HER.
YEAH, YEAH.
ARE YOU GOING TO HAVE HER TAKE MY PLACE?
KUREKO WOULD WRING MY NECK IF I DID THAT.
HE-HE-HE.
NO WORRIES. AT THIS POINT, SHE'S STILL JUST AN AMATEUR WHO CAN TALK WITHOUT STUTTERING.
I JUST...
...WANT TO HAVE THAT VOICE OF HERS IN RESERVE.
THE GENERAL LISTENERS WANT TO HEAR SOMEONE WITH A PERSONALITY AND VOICE LIKE YOURS.
YOU HAVE A GENTLE VIBRATO THAT COMES FROM DEEP BREATHING. THE IDEAL REASSURING WHISPER.

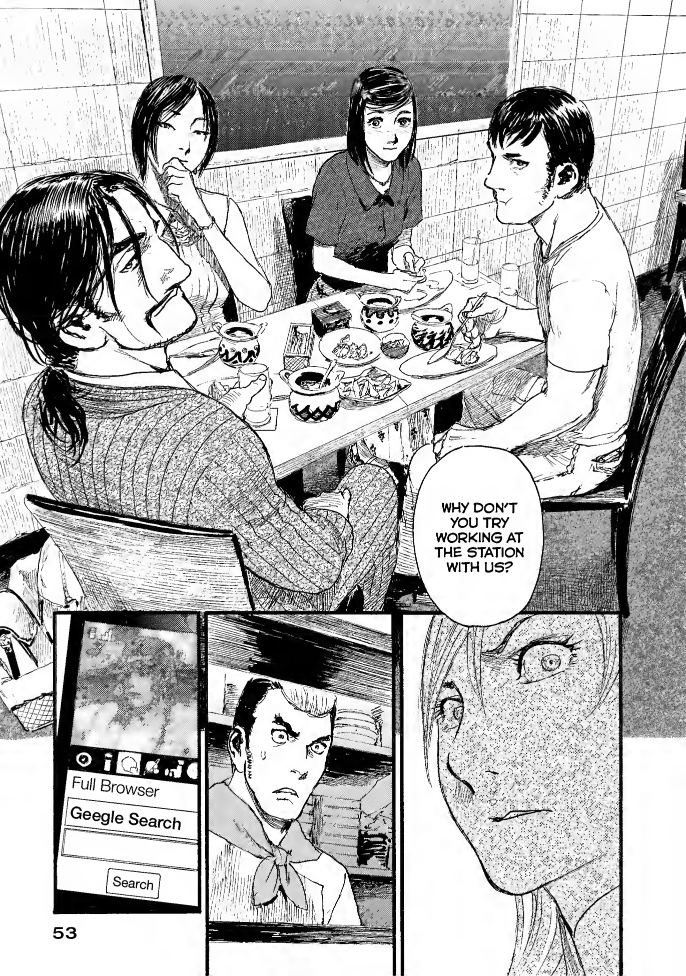

WHEREAS MINARE KODA IS THE EXACT OPPOSITE. HER VOICE IS HIGH AND MAKES PEOPLE UNEASY, AN AGITATING VOICE WITH A SOMEWHAT ARROGANT RING.
WHAT I FOUND INTRIGUING WAS THAT IT WASN'T UNPLEASANT TO LISTEN TO. IT FELT LIKE I WAS WAITING TO HEAR MY FAVORITE FEMALE CELEBRITY'S NEXT UTTERANCE.
I JUST WANT TO TEST FOR MYSELF...
...IF I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO FELT THAT WAY.
I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME UNTIL AFTER THE SUMMER FESTIVAL!

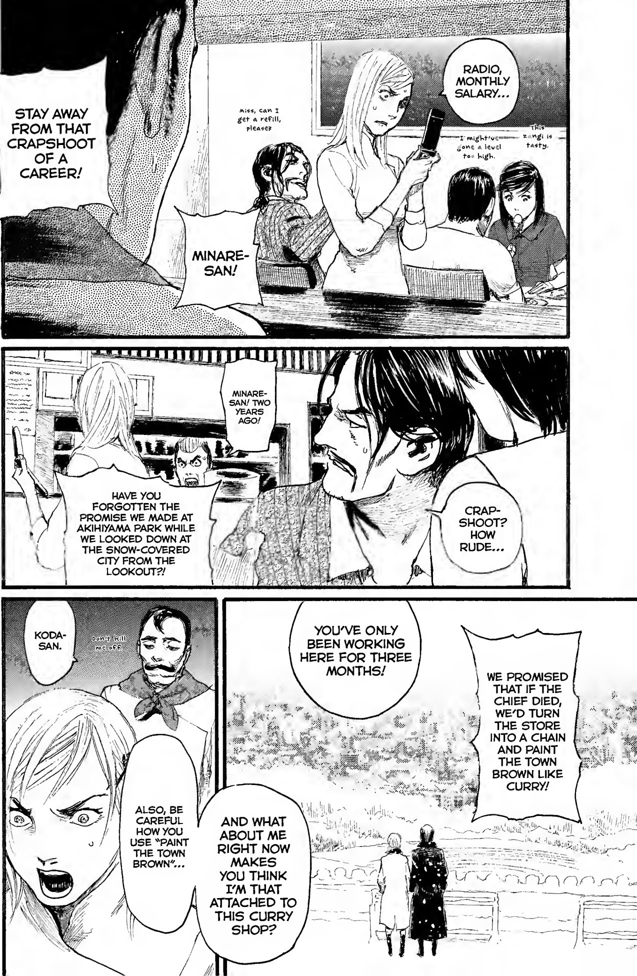

FWOO
WHIRL
WA-THWACK
THE REVIEW SITE SAID THE SERVICE HERE WAS GOOD, BUT...
I'M VERY SORRY! THIS GIRL WON'T BE WORKING HERE ANYMORE AFTER NEXT MONTH!
PLEASE, TAKE THESE COUPONS FOR A SMALL SALAD AS AN APOLOGY.
I have curry stuck on the back of my head
Did he just jump over the wall?

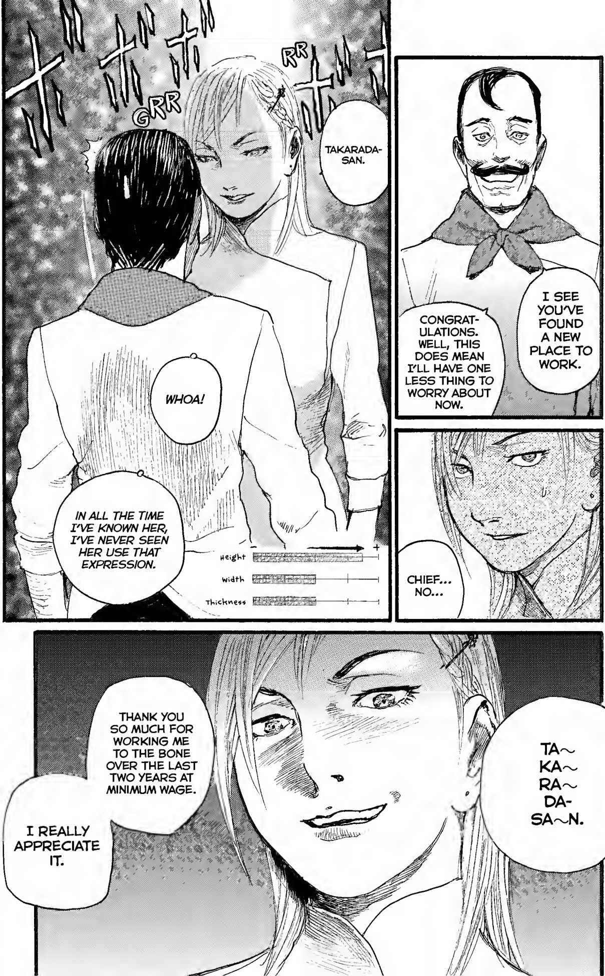
* ZANGI IS A TYPE OF FRIED CHICKEN DISH. ** EDAMAME ARE SOYBEANS OFTEN SERVED AS A SIDE DISH AT JAPANESE RESTAURANTS AND BARS.

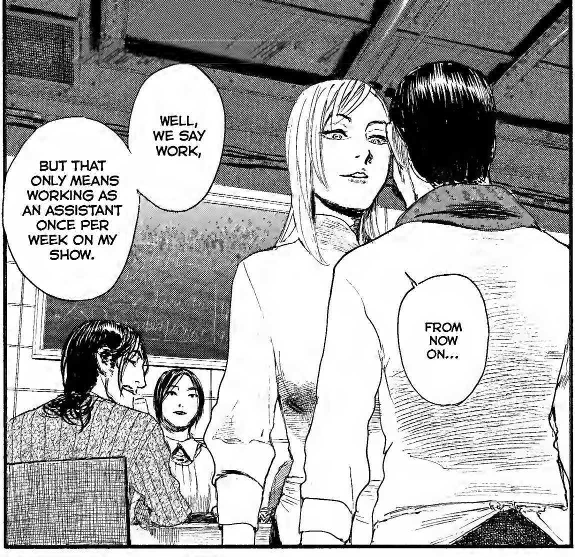

WHAT'S YER ORDER?
I'LL TAKE THE SOUR CHICKEN LEVEL FIVE WITH A SCONE AND TA-BATIERE. OH, AND A GIN AND TONIC, PLEASE.
I'LL HAVE THE SEAFOOD CURRY WITH A COCONUT MILK BASE, SEELAN AND CIABATTA FOR BREAD, AND A GLASS OF RED WINE, PLEASE.
I'LL HAVE A HIGHBALL AND THE KING BIRBAL CURRY WITH A CROISSANT AND SESAME KAISER ROLL, AND AN ORDER OF ZANGI* AND EDAMAME** ON THE SIDE.
WHY DON'T YOU ORDER EVERYTHING ON THE MENU?! ARE YOU TRYING TO HARASS ME?!
UMM. I'LL HAVE A MANGO LASSI AND...


I HOPE YOU FEEL AT LEAST A LITTLE RESPONSIBLE, MATO-SAN.
THE POOR GIRL GOT FIRED.
YEAH...
SHE MIGHT AS WELL COME TO OUR PLACE AT THIS POINT.
"OUR PLACE?"
UH-HUH.
OH.
I DON'T MEAN LIVE TOGETHER, OR ANYTHING.

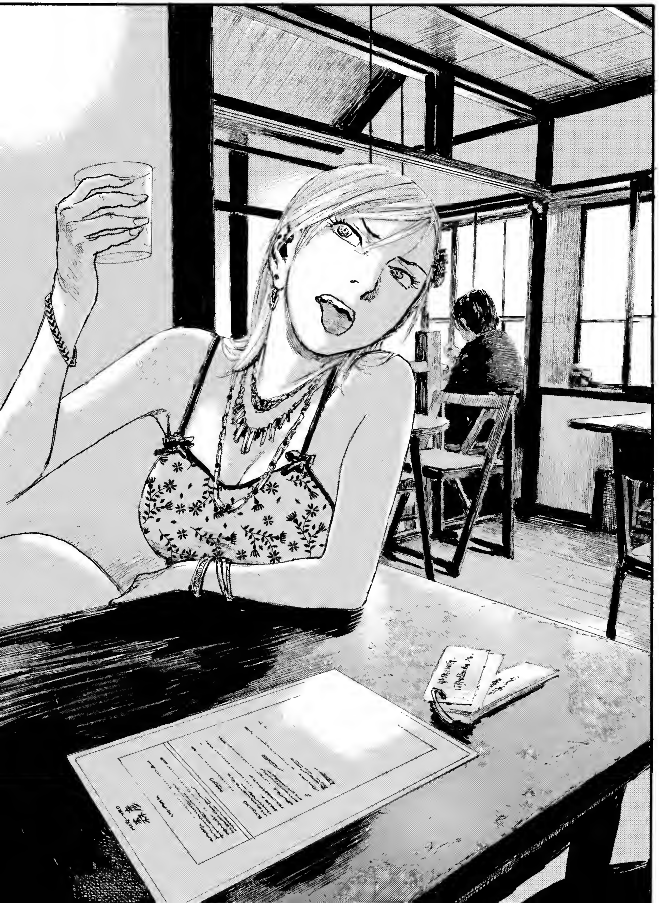

WHY DON'T YOU TRY WORKING AT THE STATION WITH US?
Full Browser
Geegle Search
Search

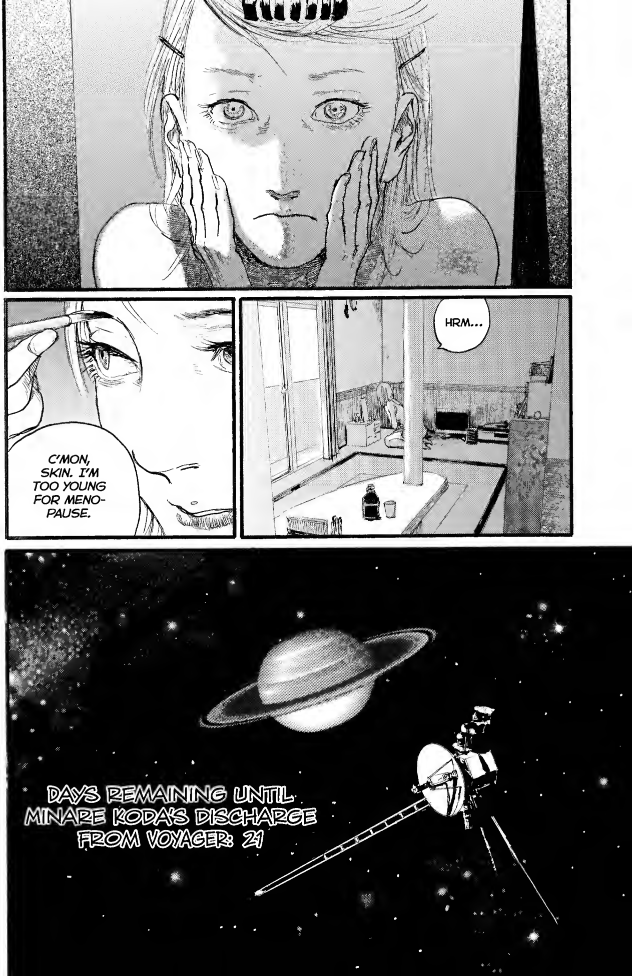

RADIO, MONTHLY SALARY...
This zangi is tasty.
I might've gone a level too high.
Miss, can I get a refill, please?
MINARE-SAN!
STAY AWAY FROM THAT CRAPSHOOT OF A CAREER!
CRAP-SHOOT? HOW RUDE...
MINARE-SAN! TWO YEARS AGO!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE PROMISE WE MADE AT AKIHIYAMA PARK WHILE WE LOOKED DOWN AT THE SNOW-COVERED CITY FROM THE LOOKOUT?!
WE PROMISED THAT IF THE CHIEF DIED, WE'D TURN THE STORE INTO A CHAIN AND PAINT THE TOWN BROWN LIKE CURRY!
YOU'VE ONLY BEEN WORKING HERE FOR THREE MONTHS!
AND WHAT ABOUT ME RIGHT NOW MAKES YOU THINK I'M THAT ATTACHED TO THIS CURRY SHOP?
KODA-SAN.
Don't kill me off.
ALSO, BE CAREFUL HOW YOU USE "PAINT THE TOWN BROWN"...

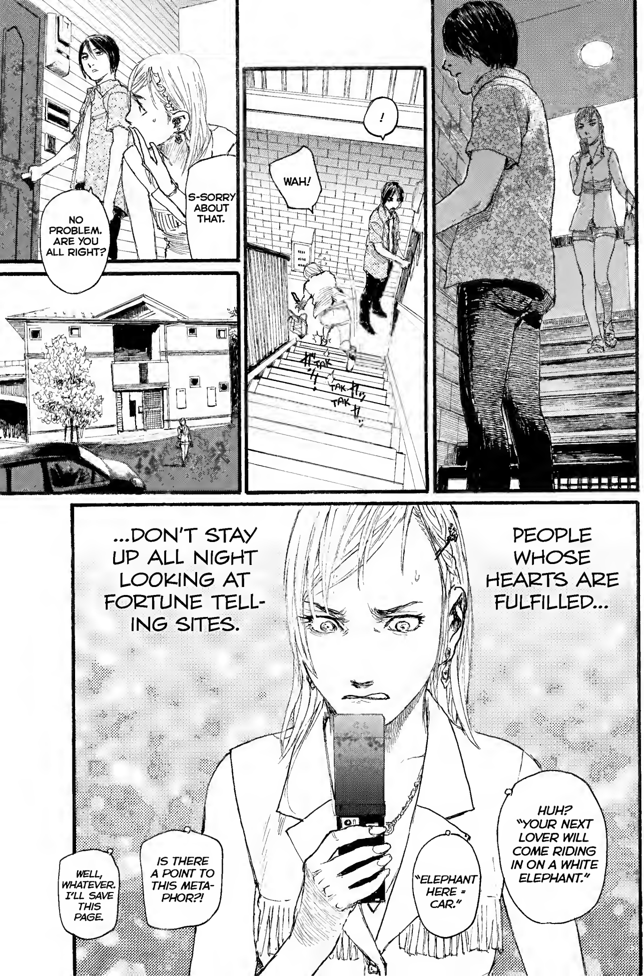

GRR
RR
TAKARADA-SAN.
WHOA!
IN ALL THE TIME I'VE KNOWN HER, I'VE NEVER SEEN HER USE THAT EXPRESSION.
Height
Width
Thickness
I SEE YOU'VE FOUND A NEW PLACE TO WORK.
CONGRATULATIONS. WELL, THIS DOES MEAN I'LL HAVE ONE LESS THING TO WORRY ABOUT NOW.
CHIEF... NO...
TA~ KA~ RA~ DA-SA~N.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR WORKING ME TO THE BONE OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS AT MINIMUM WAGE.
I REALLY APPRECIATE IT.

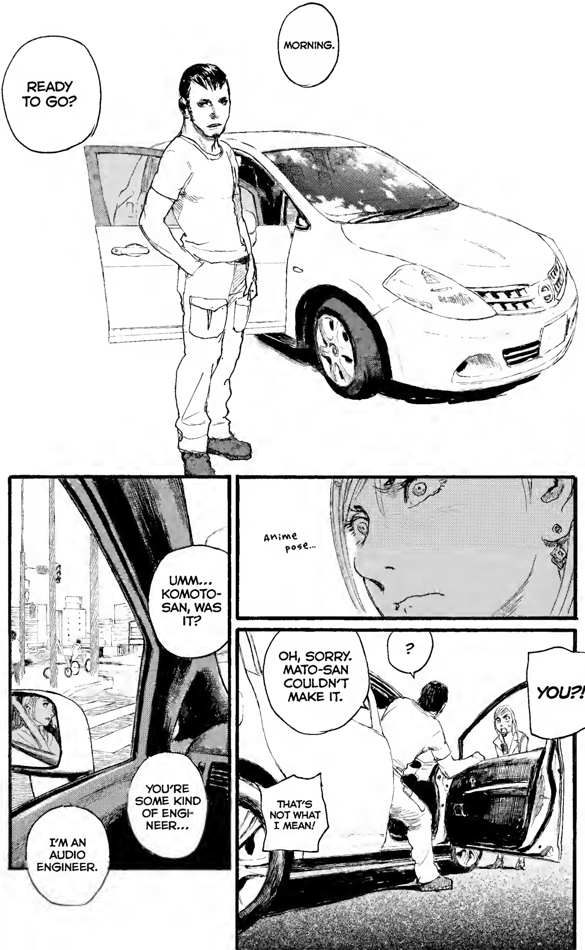

WELL, WE SAY WORK,
BUT THAT ONLY MEANS WORKING AS AN ASSISTANT ONCE PER WEEK ON MY SHOW.
FROM NOW ON...
FROM NOW ON...
UMM...
I DON'T MIND IF YOU LOWER MY WAGE A LITTLE BIT.
IF YOU WANT, I CAN ADVERTISE THE STORE ON THE RADIO, TOO.
HUH?

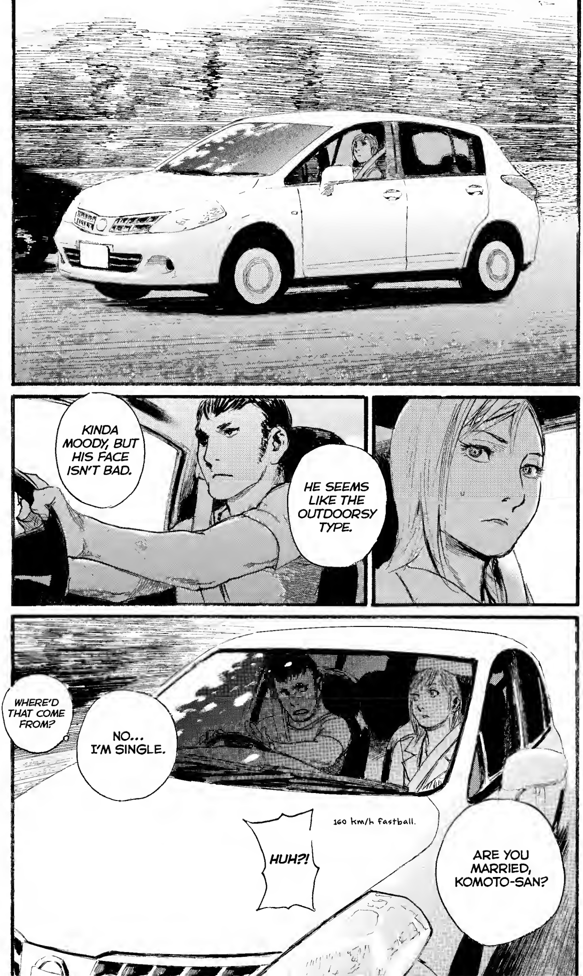
Chapter 3 「I DESPISE THEM.」

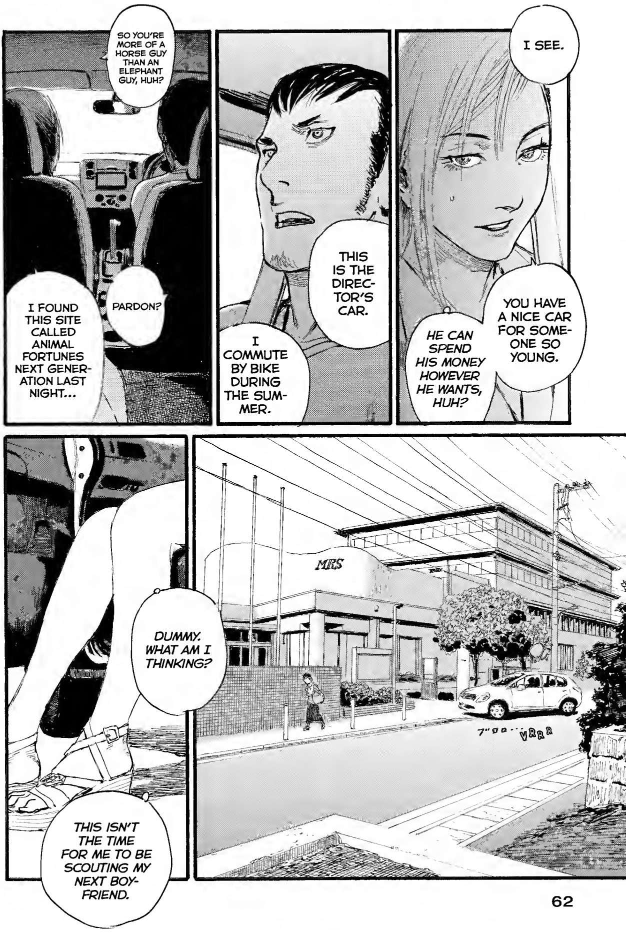


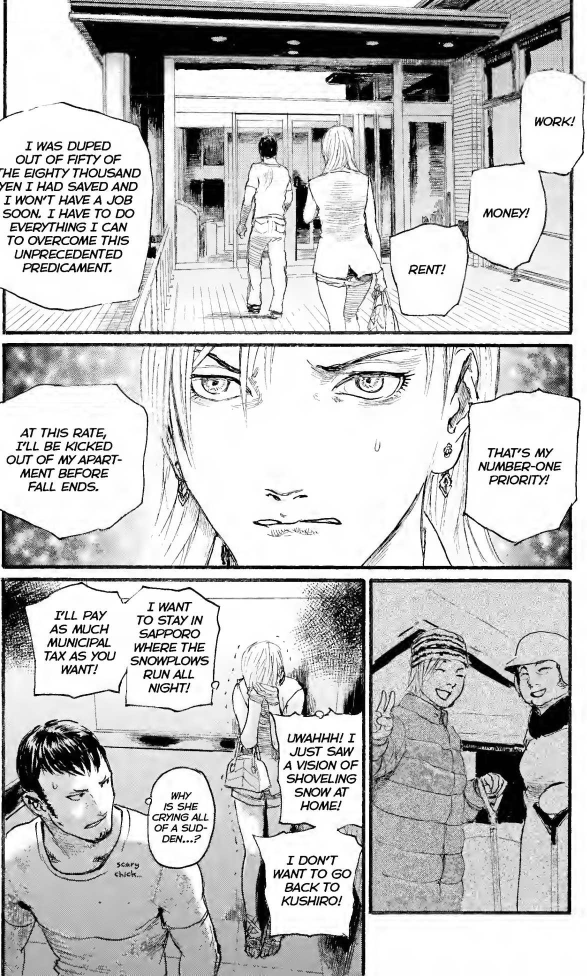

HRM...
C'MON, SKIN. I'M TOO YOUNG FOR MENOPAUSE.
DAYS REMAINING UNTIL MINARE KODA'S DISCHARGE FROM VOYAGER: 21

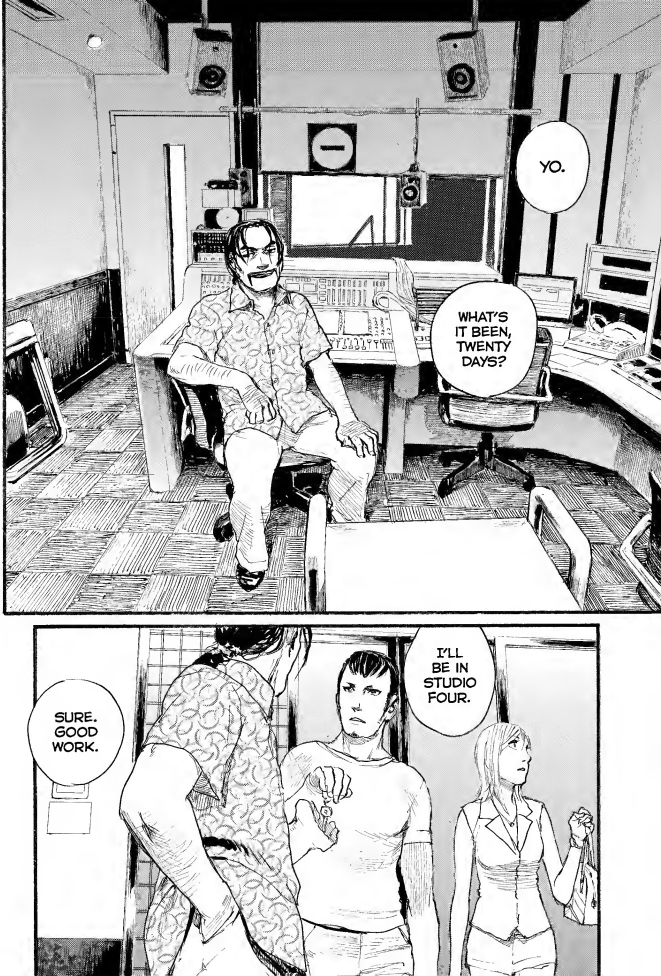

!
WAH!
TAK TAK TAK
S-SORRY ABOUT THAT.
NO PROBLEM. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
PEOPLE WHOSE HEARTS ARE FULFILLED...
...DON'T STAY UP ALL NIGHT LOOKING AT FORTUNE TELLING SITES.
HUH? "YOUR NEXT LOVER WILL COME RIDING IN ON A WHITE ELEPHANT."
"ELEPHANT HERE = CAR."
IS THERE A POINT TO THIS METAPHOR?!
WELL, WHATEVER. I'LL SAVE THIS PAGE.

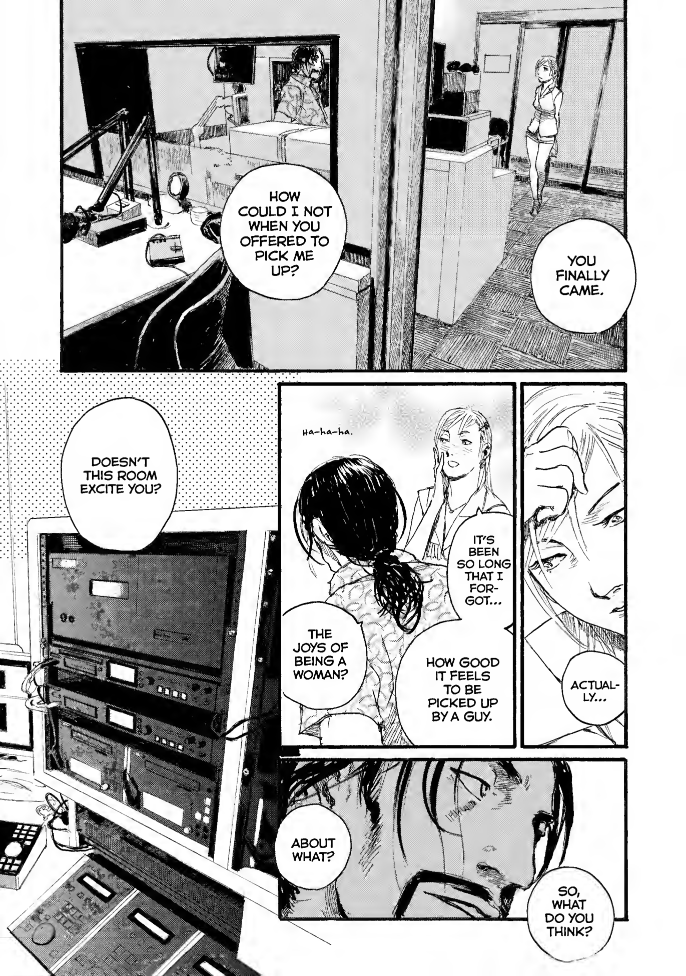

MORNING.
READY TO GO?
Anime pose...
YOU?!
?
OH, SORRY. MATO-SAN COULDN'T MAKE IT.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
UMM... KOMOTO-SAN, WAS IT?
YOU'RE SOME KIND OF ENGINEER...
I'M AN AUDIO ENGINEER.

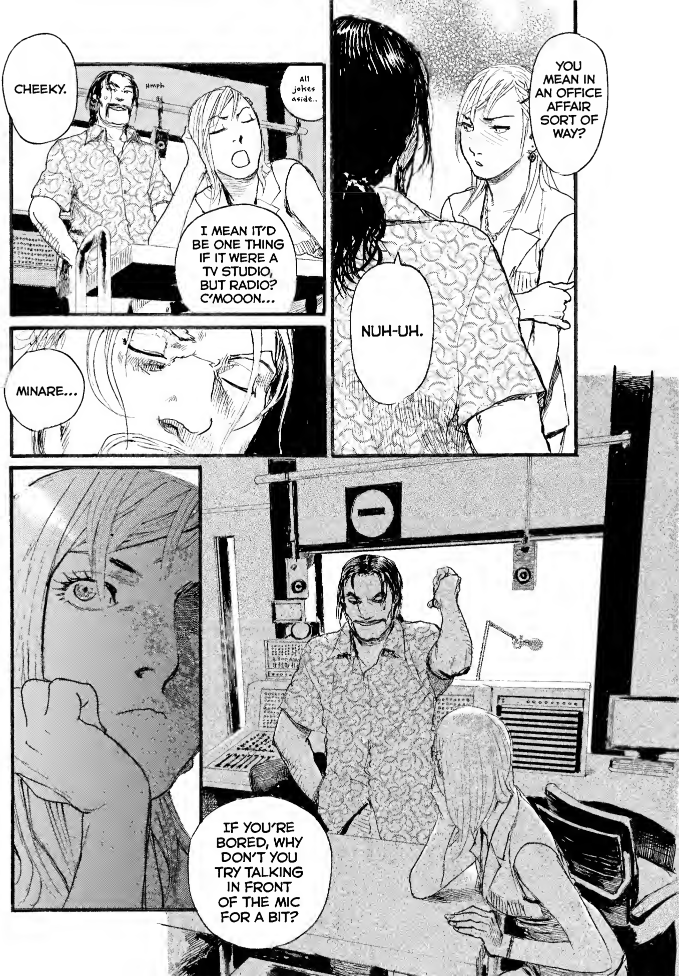

HE SEEMS LIKE THE OUTDOORSY TYPE.
KINDA MOODY, BUT HIS FACE ISN'T BAD.
ARE YOU MARRIED, KOMOTO-SAN?
160 km/h fastball.
HUH?!
NO... I'M SINGLE.
WHERE'D THAT COME FROM?

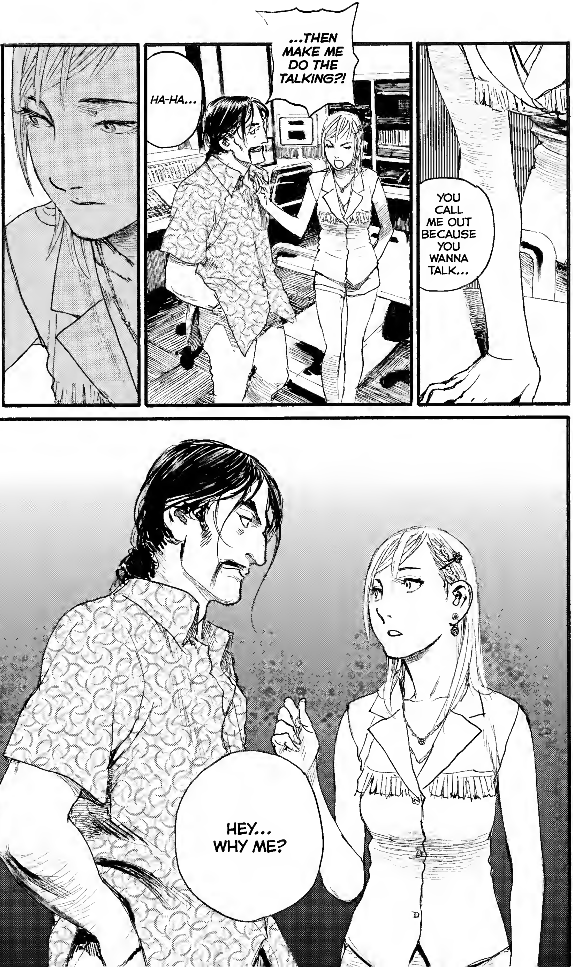

I SEE.
YOU HAVE A NICE CAR FOR SOMEONE SO YOUNG.
HE CAN SPEND HIS MONEY HOWEVER HE WANTS, HUH?
THIS IS THE DIRECTOR'S CAR.
I COMMUTE BY BIKE DURING THE SUMMER.
SO YOU'RE MORE OF A HORSE GUY THAN AN ELEPHANT GUY, HUH?
PARDON?
I FOUND THIS SITE CALLED ANIMAL FORTUNES NEXT GENERATION LAST NIGHT...
MRS
ブロロ… VRRR
DUMMY. WHAT AM I THINKING?
THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR ME TO BE SCOUTING MY NEXT BOYFRIEND.

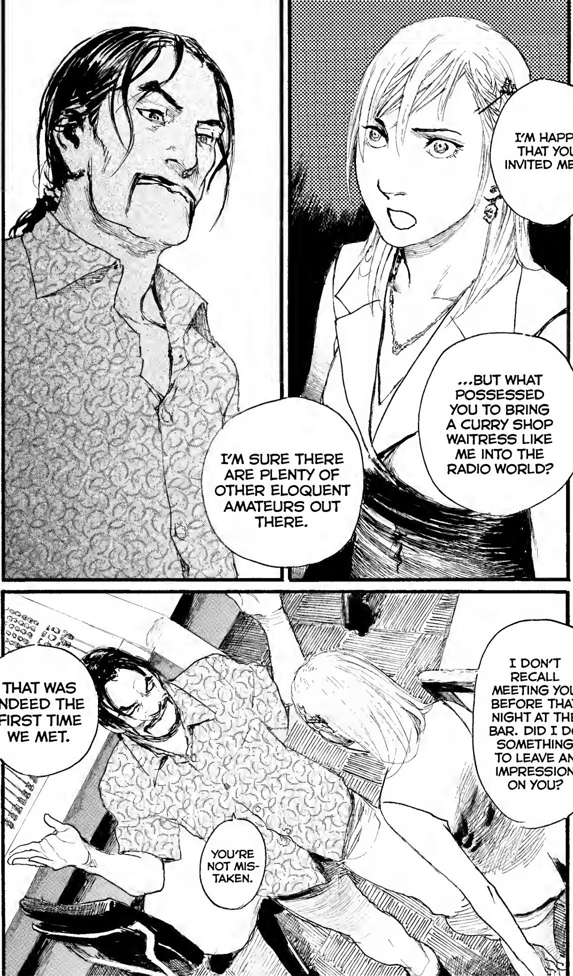

I WAS DUPED OUT OF FIFTY OF THE EIGHTY THOUSAND YEN I HAD SAVED AND I WON'T HAVE A JOB SOON. I HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO OVERCOME THIS UNPRECEDENTED PREDICAMENT.
WORK!
MONEY!
RENT!
AT THIS RATE, I'LL BE KICKED OUT OF MY APARTMENT BEFORE FALL ENDS.
THAT'S MY NUMBER-ONE PRIORITY!
UWAHHH! I JUST SAW A VISION OF SHOVELING SNOW AT HOME!
I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK TO KUSHIRO!
I WANT TO STAY IN SAPPORO WHERE THE SNOWPLOWS RUN ALL NIGHT!
I'LL PAY AS MUCH MUNICIPAL TAX AS YOU WANT!
WHY IS SHE CRYING ALL OF A SUDDEN...?
scary chick...

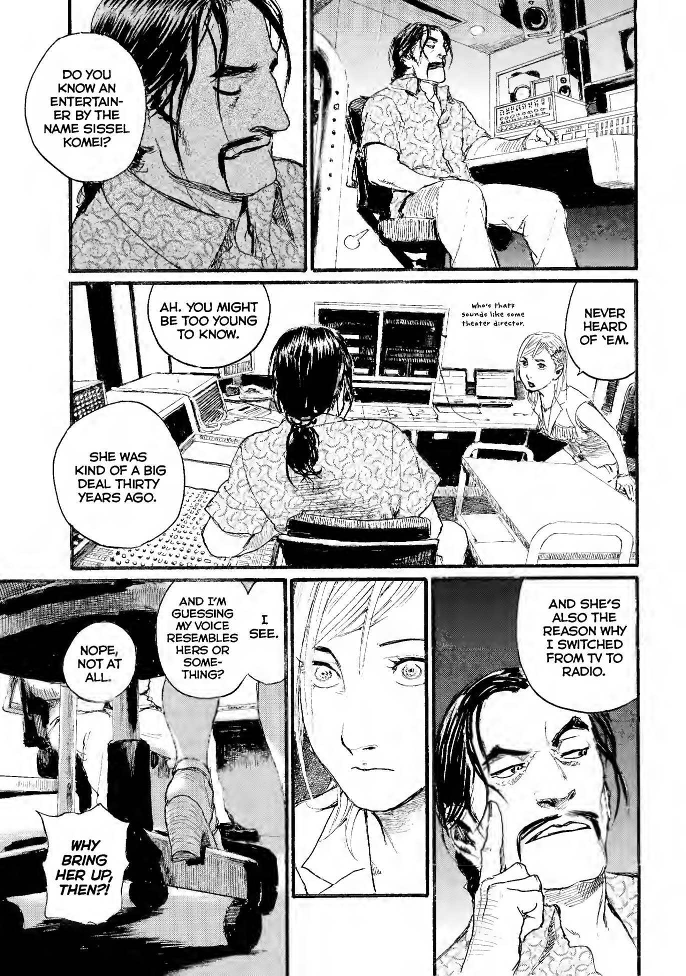

YO.
WHAT'S IT BEEN, TWENTY DAYS?
I'LL BE IN STUDIO FOUR.
SURE. GOOD WORK.

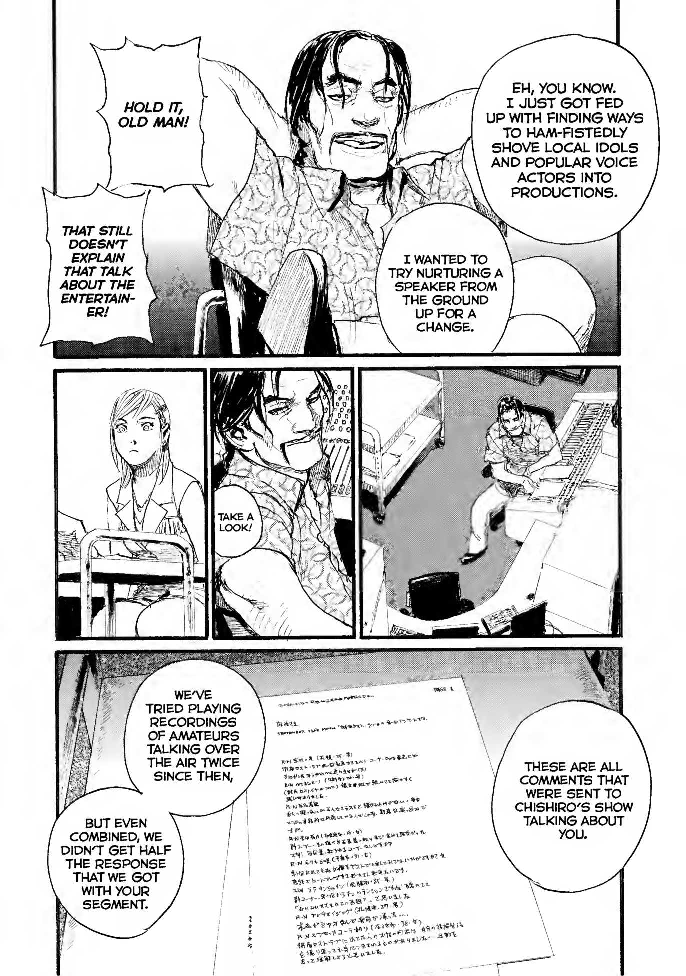

YOU FINALLY CAME.
HOW COULD I NOT WHEN YOU OFFERED TO PICK ME UP?
ACTUALLY...
IT'S BEEN SO LONG THAT I FORGOT...
HOW GOOD IT FEELS TO BE PICKED UP BY A GUY.
Ha-ha-ha.
THE JOYS OF BEING A WOMAN?
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
ABOUT WHAT?
DOESN'T THIS ROOM EXCITE YOU?

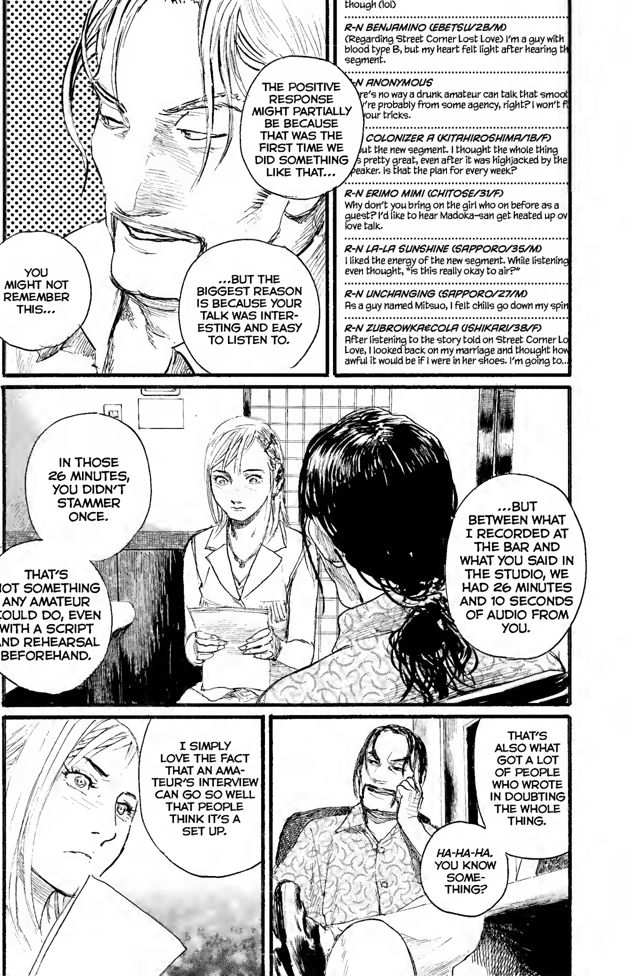

YOU MEAN IN AN OFFICE AFFAIR SORT OF WAY?
NUH-UH.
All jokes aside...
I MEAN IT'D BE ONE THING IF IT WERE A TV STUDIO, BUT RADIO? C'MOOON...
CHEEKY.
Hmph
MINARE...
IF YOU'RE BORED, WHY DON'T YOU TRY TALKING IN FRONT OF THE MIC FOR A BIT?


YOU CALL ME OUT BECAUSE YOU WANNA TALK...
...THEN MAKE ME DO THE TALKING?!
HA-HA...
HEY... WHY ME?


I'M HAPPY THAT YOU INVITED ME...
...BUT WHAT POSSESSED YOU TO BRING A CURRY SHOP WAITRESS LIKE ME INTO THE RADIO WORLD?
I'M SURE THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER ELOQUENT AMATEURS OUT THERE.
I DON'T RECALL MEETING YOU BEFORE THAT NIGHT AT THE BAR. DID I DO SOMETHING TO LEAVE AN IMPRESSION ON YOU?
YOU'RE NOT MISTAKEN.
THAT WAS INDEED THE FIRST TIME WE MET.


DO YOU KNOW AN ENTERTAINER BY THE NAME SISSEL KOMEI?
NEVER HEARD OF 'EM.
who's that? sounds like some theater director.
AH. YOU MIGHT BE TOO YOUNG TO KNOW.
SHE WAS KIND OF A BIG DEAL THIRTY YEARS AGO.
AND SHE'S ALSO THE REASON WHY I SWITCHED FROM TV TO RADIO.
I SEE.
AND I'M GUESSING MY VOICE RESEMBLES HERS OR SOMETHING?
NOPE, NOT AT ALL.
WHY BRING HER UP, THEN?!


EH, YOU KNOW. I JUST GOT FED UP WITH FINDING WAYS TO HAM-FISTEDLY SHOVE LOCAL IDOLS AND POPULAR VOICE ACTORS INTO PRODUCTIONS.
I WANTED TO TRY NURTURING A SPEAKER FROM THE GROUND UP FOR A CHANGE.
HOLD IT, OLD MAN!
THAT STILL DOESN'T EXPLAIN THAT TALK ABOUT THE ENTERTAINER!
TAKE A LOOK!
THESE ARE ALL COMMENTS THAT WERE SENT TO CHISHIRO'S SHOW TALKING ABOUT YOU.
PAGE 1
WE'VE TRIED PLAYING RECORDINGS OF AMATEURS TALKING OVER THE AIR TWICE SINCE THEN,
BUT EVEN COMBINED, WE DIDN'T GET HALF THE RESPONSE THAT WE GOT WITH YOUR SEGMENT.



though (lol)

R-N BENJAMINO (EBETSU/2B/M)
(Regarding Street Corner Lost Love) I'm a guy with blood type B, but my heart felt light after hearing th segment.

-N ANONYMOUS
re's no way a drunk amateur can talk that smoot y're probably from some agency, right? I won't f your tricks.

COLONIZER A (KITAHIROSHIMA/1B/F)
out the new segment. I thought the whole thing s pretty great, even after it was highjacked by the peaker. Is that the plan for every week?

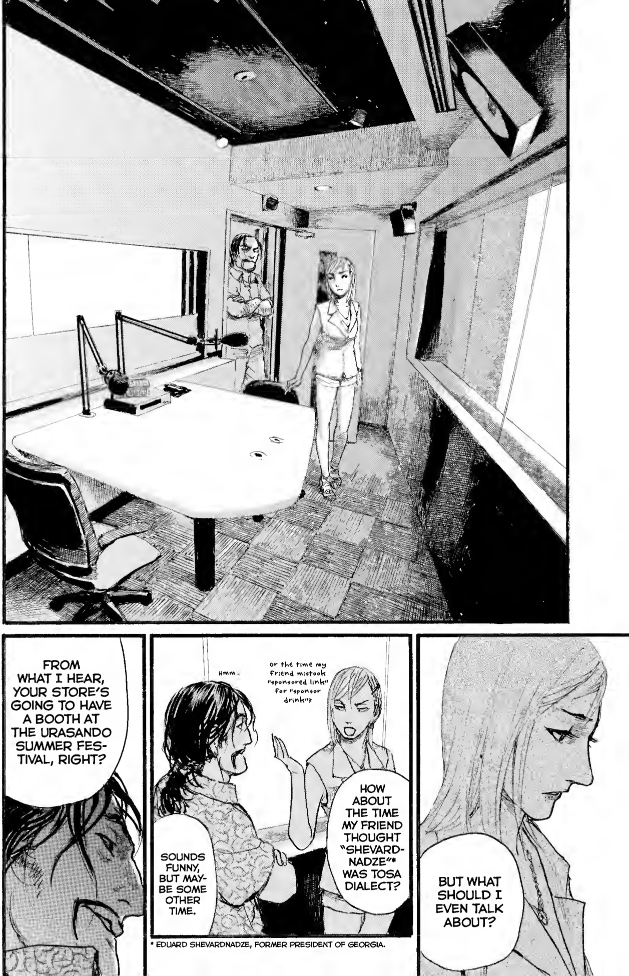
R-N ERIMO MIMI (CHITOSE/31/F)
Why don't you bring on the girl who on before as a guest? I'd like to hear Madoka-san get heated up ov love talk.

R-N LA-LA SUNSHINE (SAPPORO/35/M)
I liked the energy of the new segment. While listening even thought, "is this really okay to air?"

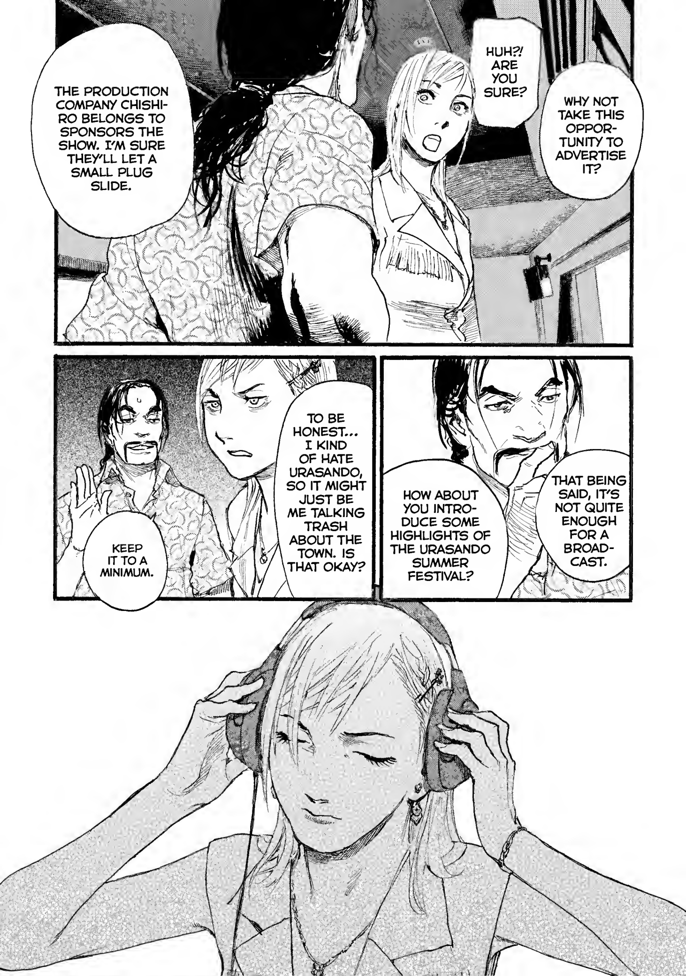
R-N UNCHANGING (SAPPORO/27/M)
As a guy named Mitsuo, I felt chills go down my spin

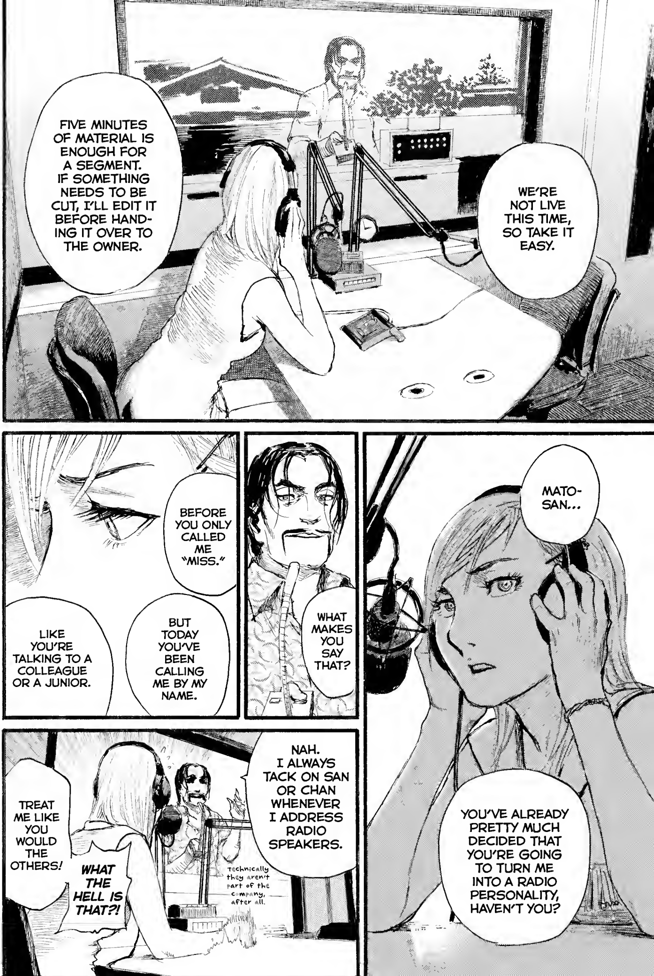
R-N ZUBROWKA&COLA (ISHIKARI/38/F)
After listening to the story told on Street Corner Lo Love, I looked back on my marriage and thought how awful it would be if I were in her shoes. I'm going to...

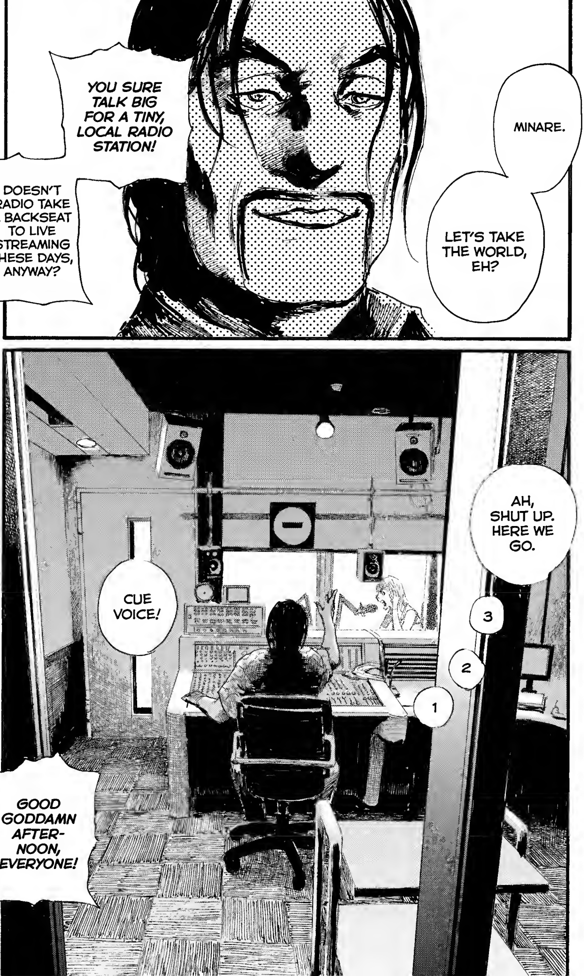
THE POSITIVE RESPONSE MIGHT PARTIALLY BE BECAUSE THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME WE DID SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
...BUT THE BIGGEST REASON IS BECAUSE YOUR TALK WAS INTERESTING AND EASY TO LISTEN TO.
YOU MIGHT NOT REMEMBER THIS...
...BUT BETWEEN WHAT I RECORDED AT THE BAR AND WHAT YOU SAID IN THE STUDIO, WE HAD 26 MINUTES AND 10 SECONDS OF AUDIO FROM YOU.
IN THOSE 26 MINUTES, YOU DIDN'T STAMMER ONCE.
THAT'S NOT SOMETHING ANY AMATEUR COULD DO, EVEN WITH A SCRIPT AND REHEARSAL BEFOREHAND.
THAT'S ALSO WHAT GOT A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO WROTE IN DOUBTING THE WHOLE THING.
HA-HA-HA. YOU KNOW SOMETHING?
I SIMPLY LOVE THE FACT THAT AN AMATEUR'S INTERVIEW CAN GO SO WELL THAT PEOPLE THINK IT'S A SET UP.

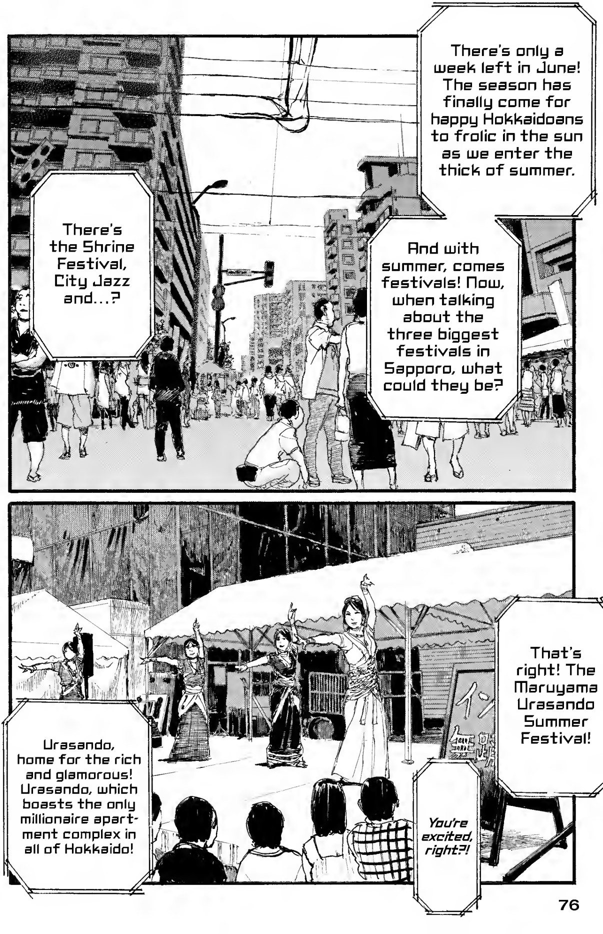

BUT WHAT SHOULD I EVEN TALK ABOUT?
HOW ABOUT THE TIME MY FRIEND THOUGHT "SHEVARDNADZE"* WAS TOSA DIALECT?
or the time my friend mistook "sponsored link" for "sponsor drink"?
SOUNDS FUNNY, BUT MAYBE SOME OTHER TIME.
Hmm.
FROM WHAT I HEAR, YOUR STORE'S GOING TO HAVE A BOOTH AT THE URASANDO SUMMER FESTIVAL, RIGHT?

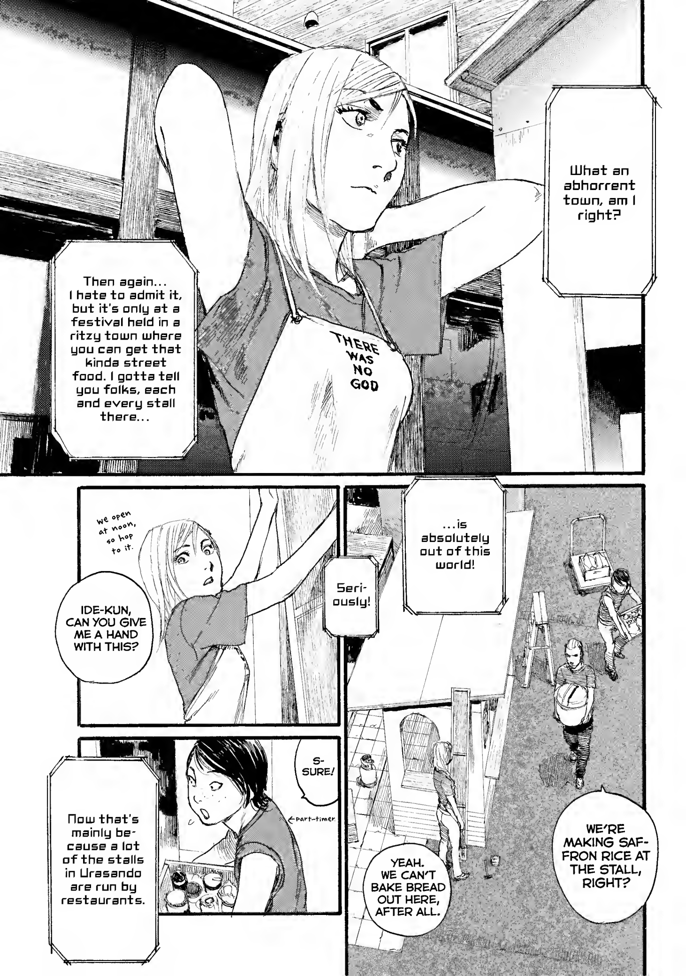
* EDUARD SHEVARDNADZE, FORMER PRESIDENT OF GEORGIA.

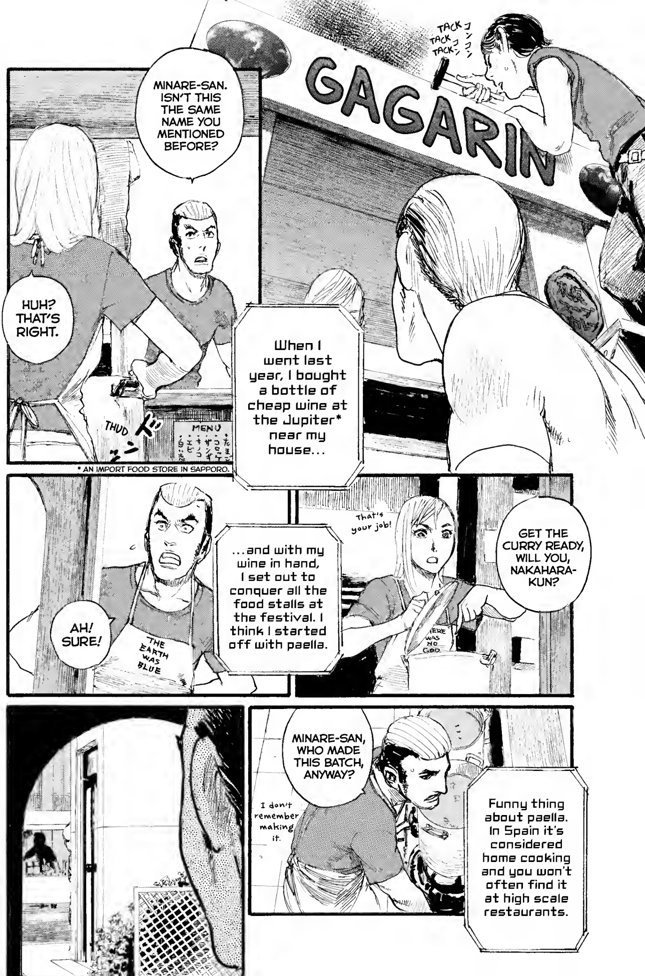

WHY NOT TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADVERTISE IT?
HUH?! ARE YOU SURE?
THE PRODUCTION COMPANY CHISHIRO BELONGS TO SPONSORS THE SHOW. I'M SURE THEY'LL LET A SMALL PLUG SLIDE.
THAT BEING SAID, IT'S NOT QUITE ENOUGH FOR A BROADCAST.
HOW ABOUT YOU INTRODUCE SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE URASANDO SUMMER FESTIVAL?
TO BE HONEST... I KIND OF HATE URASANDO, SO IT MIGHT JUST BE ME TALKING TRASH ABOUT THE TOWN. IS THAT OKAY?
KEEP IT TO A MINIMUM.


WE'RE NOT LIVE THIS TIME, SO TAKE IT EASY.
FIVE MINUTES OF MATERIAL IS ENOUGH FOR A SEGMENT. IF SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE CUT, I'LL EDIT IT BEFORE HANDING IT OVER TO THE OWNER.
MATO-SAN...
BEFORE YOU ONLY CALLED ME "MISS."
BUT TODAY YOU'VE BEEN CALLING ME BY MY NAME.
LIKE YOU'RE TALKING TO A COLLEAGUE OR A JUNIOR.
WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?
NAH. I ALWAYS TACK ON SAN OR CHAN WHENEVER I ADDRESS RADIO SPEAKERS.
Technically they aren't part of the company, after all.
TREAT ME LIKE YOU WOULD THE OTHERS!
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
YOU'VE ALREADY PRETTY MUCH DECIDED THAT YOU'RE GOING TO TURN ME INTO A RADIO PERSONALITY, HAVEN'T YOU?

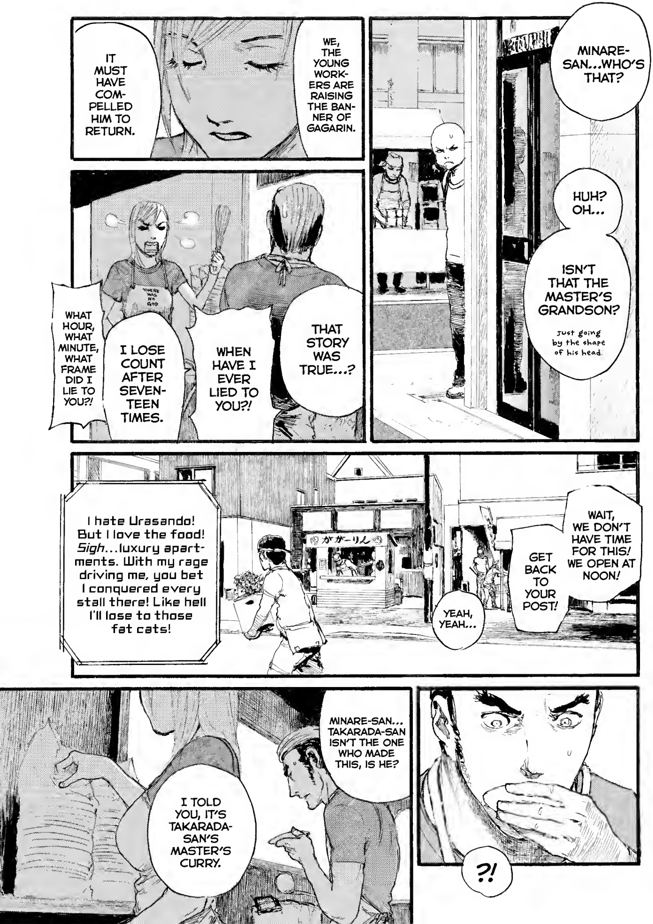

MINARE.
LET'S TAKE THE WORLD, EH?
YOU SURE TALK BIG FOR A TINY, LOCAL RADIO STATION!
DOESN'T RADIO TAKE A BACKSEAT TO LIVE STREAMING THESE DAYS, ANYWAY?
AH, SHUT UP. HERE WE GO.
3
2
1
CUE VOICE!
GOOD GODDAMN AFTERNOON, EVERYONE!

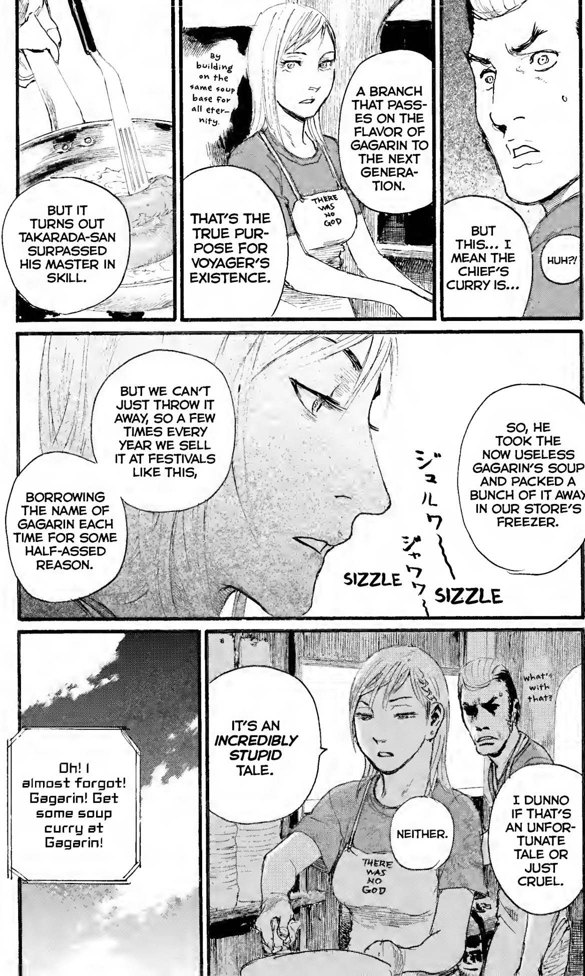

There's only a week left in June! The season has finally come for happy Hokkaidoans to frolic in the sun as we enter the thick of summer.
And with summer, comes festivals! Now, when talking about the three biggest festivals in Sapporo, what could they be?
There's the Shrine Festival, City Jazz and...?
That's right! The Maruyama Urasando Summer Festival!
Urasando, home for the rich and glamorous! Urasando, which boasts the only millionaire apartment complex in all of Hokkaido!
You're excited, right?!
イン

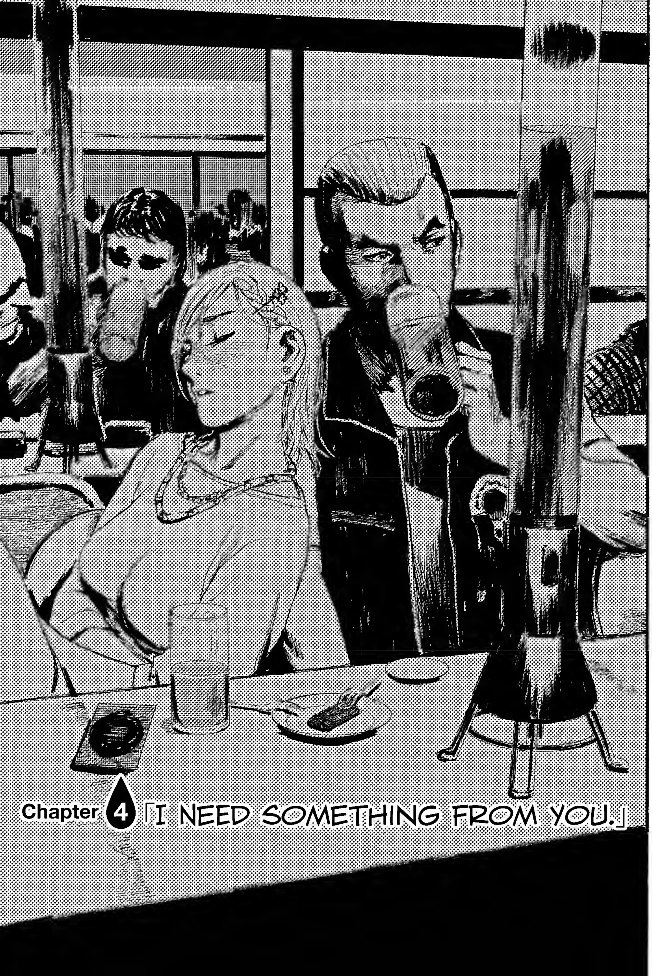

What an abhorrent town, am I right?
Then again... I hate to admit it, but it's only at a festival held in a ritzy town where you can get that kinda street food. I gotta tell you folks, each and every stall there...
THERE WAS NO GOD
...is absolutely out of this world!
Seriously!
WE'RE MAKING SAFFRON RICE AT THE STALL, RIGHT?
YEAH. WE CAN'T BAKE BREAD OUT HERE, AFTER ALL.
we open at noon, so hop to it.
IDE-KUN, CAN YOU GIVE ME A HAND WITH THIS?
S-SURE!
←part-timer
Now that's mainly because a lot of the stalls in Urasando are run by restaurants.


TACK TACK TACK
GAGARIN
MINARE-SAN. ISN'T THIS THE SAME NAME YOU MENTIONED BEFORE?
HUH? THAT'S RIGHT.
THUD
MENU
When I went last year, I bought a bottle of cheap wine at the Jupiter* near my house...
GET THE CURRY READY, WILL YOU, NAKAHARA-KUN?
That's your job!
THERE WAS NO GOD
...and with my wine in hand, I set out to conquer all the food stalls at the festival. I think I started off with paella.
AH! SURE!
THE EARTH WAS BLUE
Funny thing about paella. In Spain it's considered home cooking and you won't often find it at high scale restaurants.
MINARE-SAN, WHO MADE THIS BATCH, ANYWAY?
I don't remember making it.

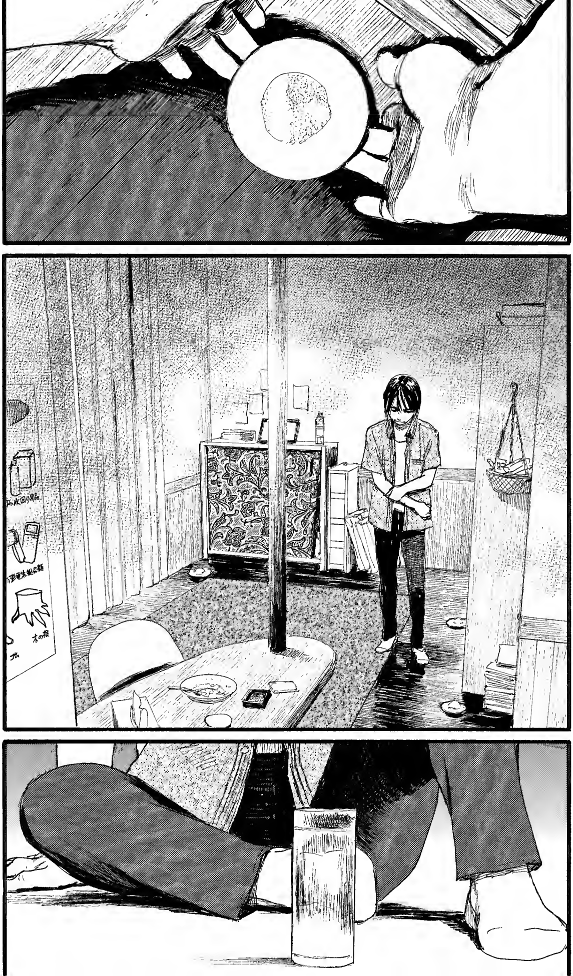
* AN IMPORT FOOD STORE IN SAPPORO.

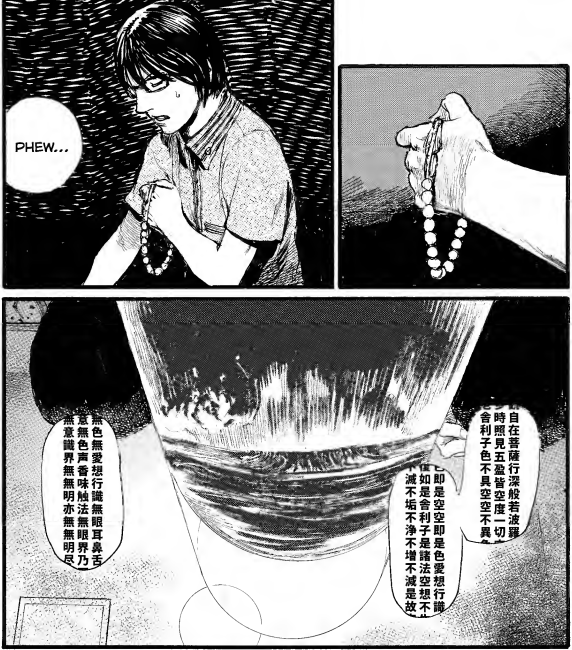

MINARE-SAN...WHO'S THAT?
HUH? OH...
ISN'T THAT THE MASTER'S GRANDSON?
just going by the shape of his head.
WE, THE YOUNG WORKERS ARE RAISING THE BANNER OF GAGARIN.
IT MUST HAVE COMPELLED HIM TO RETURN.
THERE WAS NO GOD
THAT STORY WAS TRUE...?
WHEN HAVE I EVER LIED TO YOU?!
I LOSE COUNT AFTER SEVENTEEN TIMES.
WHAT HOUR, WHAT MINUTE, WHAT FRAME DID I LIE TO YOU?!
WAIT, WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS! WE OPEN AT NOON!
GET BACK TO YOUR POST!
YEAH, YEAH...
ががーりん
I hate Urasando! But I love the food! Sigh...luxury apartments. With my rage driving me, you bet I conquered every stall there! Like hell I'll lose to those fat cats!
?!
MINARE-SAN... TAKARADA-SAN ISN'T THE ONE WHO MADE THIS, IS HE?
I TOLD YOU, IT'S TAKARADA-SAN'S MASTER'S CURRY.


HUH?!
BUT THIS... I MEAN THE CHIEF'S CURRY IS...
A BRANCH THAT PASSES ON THE FLAVOR OF GAGARIN TO THE NEXT GENERATION.
By building on the same soup base for all eternity.
THERE WAS NO GOD
THAT'S THE TRUE PURPOSE FOR VOYAGER'S EXISTENCE.
BUT IT TURNS OUT TAKARADA-SAN SURPASSED HIS MASTER IN SKILL.
SO, HE TOOK THE NOW USELESS GAGARIN'S SOUP AND PACKED A BUNCH OF IT AWAY IN OUR STORE'S FREEZER.
ジュルワ〜
ジャワワ〜
SIZZLE SIZZLE
BUT WE CAN'T JUST THROW IT AWAY, SO A FEW TIMES EVERY YEAR WE SELL IT AT FESTIVALS LIKE THIS,
BORROWING THE NAME OF GAGARIN EACH TIME FOR SOME HALF-ASSED REASON.
I DUNNO IF THAT'S AN UNFORTUNATE TALE OR JUST CRUEL.
what's with that?
NEITHER.
THERE WAS NO GOD
IT'S AN *INCREDIBLY STUPID* TALE.
Oh! I almost forgot! Gagarin! Get some soup curry at Gagarin!

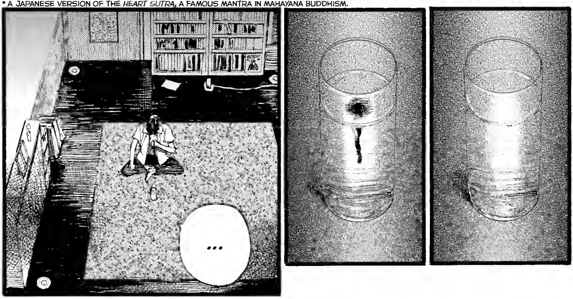


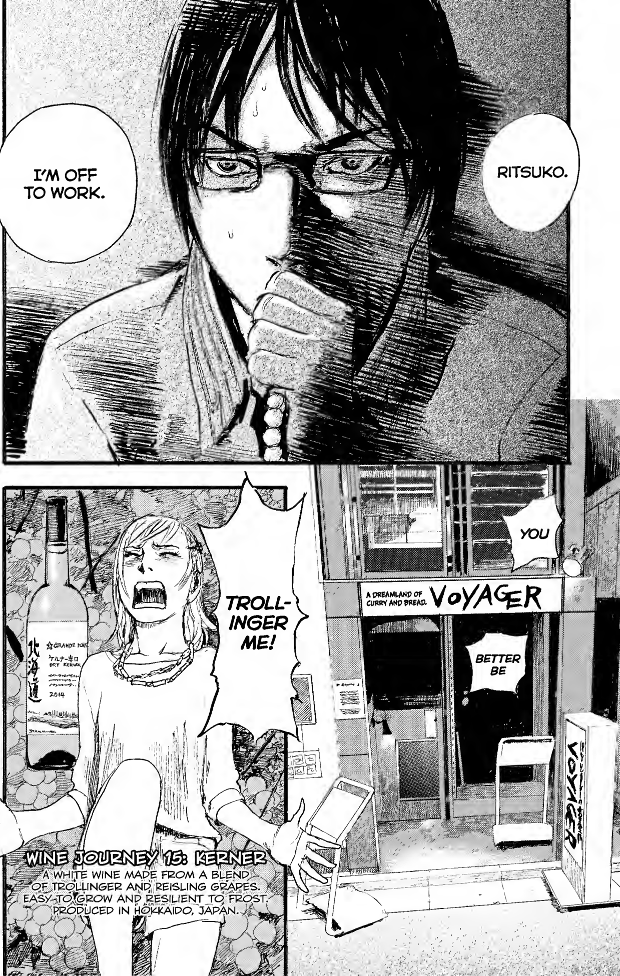
Chapter 4 「I NEED SOMETHING FROM YOU.」


水回り用品
型電気製品類
木の根
ゴム


PHEW...
自在菩薩行深般若波羅時照見五盈皆空度一切舍利子色不具空空不異
即是空空即是色愛想行識如是舍利子是諸法空想不滅不垢不浄不増不減是故
無色無愛想行識無眼耳鼻舌意無色声香味触法無眼界乃無意識界無無明亦無無明尽

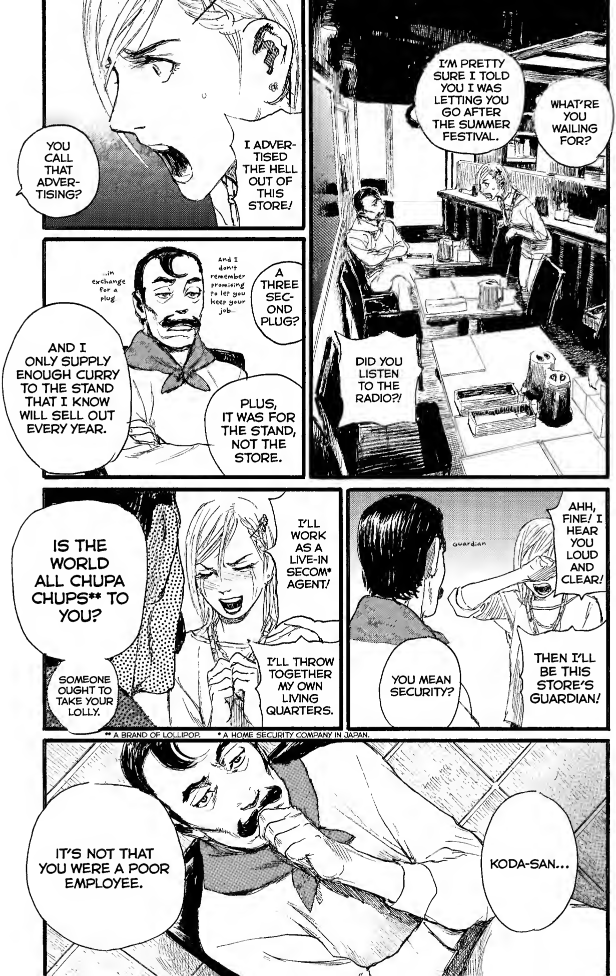
* A JAPANESE VERSION OF THE *HEART SUTRA*, A FAMOUS MANTRA IN MAHAYANA BUDDHISM.




RITSUKO.
I'M OFF TO WORK.
YOU
BETTER BE
TROLL-INGER ME!
A DREAMLAND OF CURRY AND BREAD. VOYAGER
VOYAGER
GRANDE POLAIRE
北海道
ケルナー辛口
DRY KERNER
2014

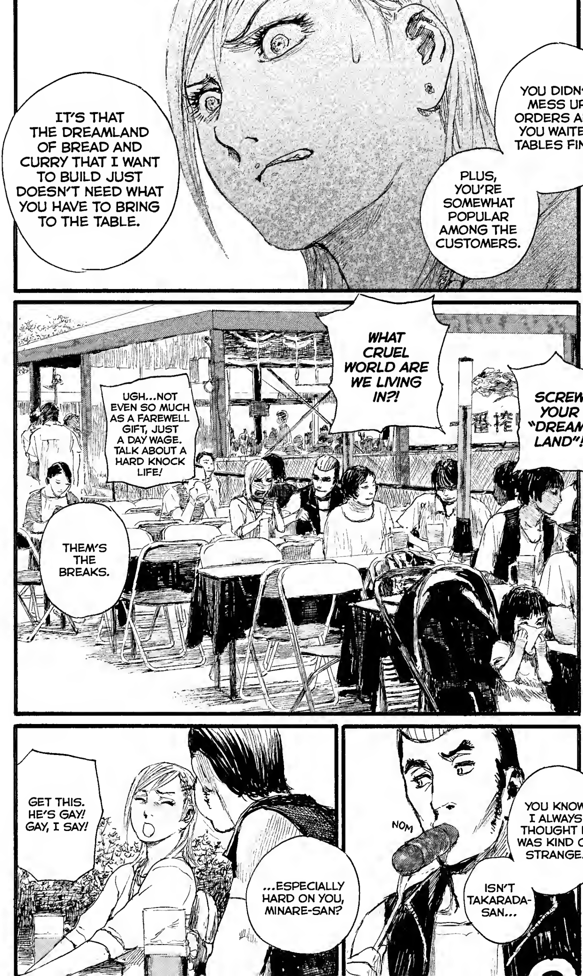
WINE JOURNEY 15: KERNER

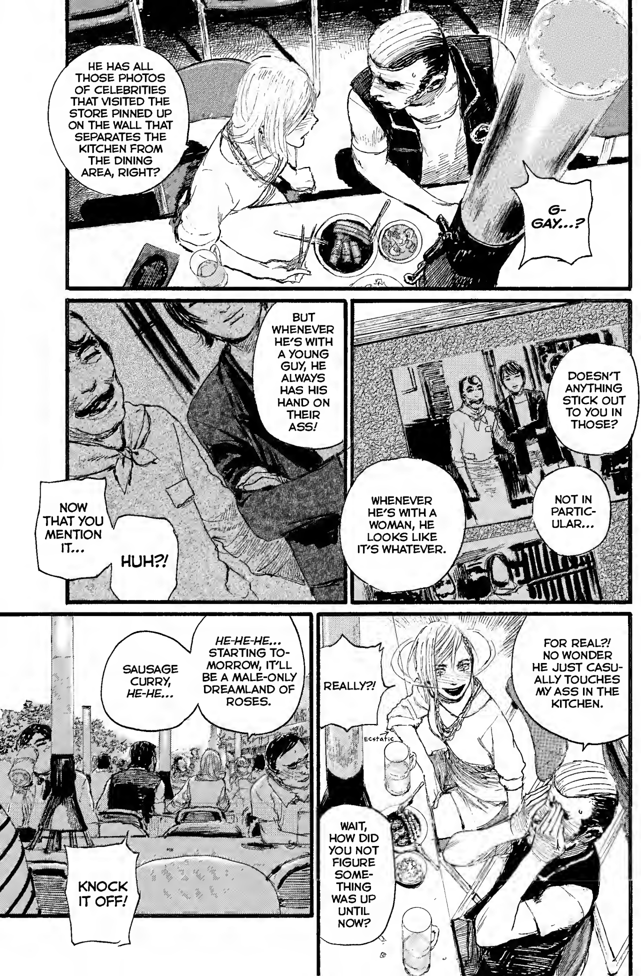
A WHITE WINE MADE FROM A BLEND OF TROLLINGER AND REISLING GRAPES. EASY TO GROW AND RESILIENT TO FROST. PRODUCED IN HOKKAIDO, JAPAN.

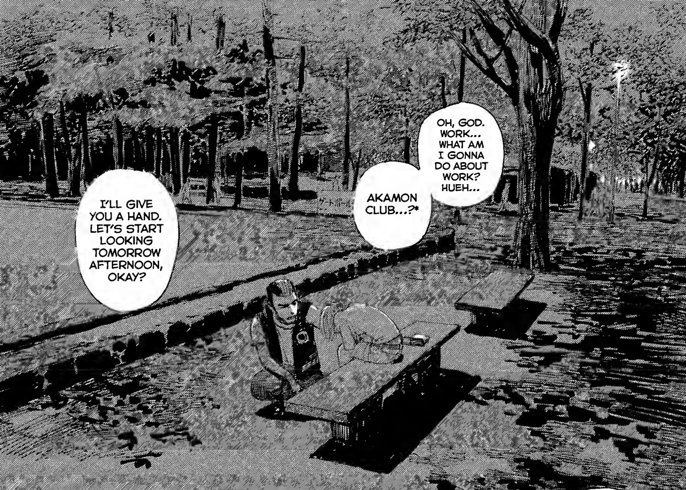

WHAT'RE YOU WAILING FOR?
I'M PRETTY SURE I TOLD YOU I WAS LETTING YOU GO AFTER THE SUMMER FESTIVAL.
DID YOU LISTEN TO THE RADIO?!
I ADVERTISED THE HELL OUT OF THIS STORE!
YOU CALL THAT ADVERTISING?
A THREE SECOND PLUG?
And I don't remember promising to let you keep your job...
...in exchange for a plug
PLUS, IT WAS FOR THE STAND, NOT THE STORE.
AND I ONLY SUPPLY ENOUGH CURRY TO THE STAND THAT I KNOW WILL SELL OUT EVERY YEAR.
AHH, FINE! I HEAR YOU LOUD AND CLEAR!
Guardian
THEN I'LL BE THIS STORE'S GUARDIAN!
YOU MEAN SECURITY?
I'LL WORK AS A LIVE-IN SECOM* AGENT!
I'LL THROW TOGETHER MY OWN LIVING QUARTERS.
IS THE WORLD ALL CHUPA CHUPS** TO YOU?
SOMEONE OUGHT TO TAKE YOUR LOLLY.
KODA-SAN...
IT'S NOT THAT YOU WERE A POOR EMPLOYEE.

** A BRAND OF LOLLIPOP.

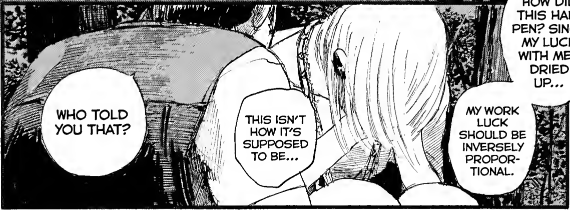
* A HOME SECURITY COMPANY IN JAPAN.


YOU DIDN'T MESS UP ORDERS AND YOU WAITED TABLES FINE.
PLUS, YOU'RE SOMEWHAT POPULAR AMONG THE CUSTOMERS.
IT'S THAT THE DREAMLAND OF BREAD AND CURRY THAT I WANT TO BUILD JUST DOESN'T NEED WHAT YOU HAVE TO BRING TO THE TABLE.
SCREW YOUR "DREAMLAND"!
WHAT CRUEL WORLD ARE WE LIVING IN?!
UGH...NOT EVEN SO MUCH AS A FAREWELL GIFT, JUST A DAY WAGE. TALK ABOUT A HARD KNOCK LIFE!
THEM'S THE BREAKS.
YOU KNOW I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WAS KIND OF STRANGE.
ISN'T TAKARADA-SAN...
NOM
...ESPECIALLY HARD ON YOU, MINARE-SAN?
GET THIS. HE'S GAY! GAY, I SAY!

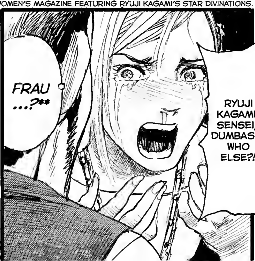

G-GAY...?
HE HAS ALL THOSE PHOTOS OF CELEBRITIES THAT VISITED THE STORE PINNED UP ON THE WALL THAT SEPARATES THE KITCHEN FROM THE DINING AREA, RIGHT?
DOESN'T ANYTHING STICK OUT TO YOU IN THOSE?
NOT IN PARTICULAR...
WHENEVER HE'S WITH A WOMAN, HE LOOKS LIKE IT'S WHATEVER.
BUT WHENEVER HE'S WITH A YOUNG GUY, HE ALWAYS HAS HIS HAND ON THEIR ASS!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
HUH?!
FOR REAL?! NO WONDER HE JUST CASUALLY TOUCHES MY ASS IN THE KITCHEN.
REALLY?!
Ecstatic
WAIT, HOW DID YOU NOT FIGURE SOMETHING WAS UP UNTIL NOW?
HE-HE-HE... STARTING TOMORROW, IT'LL BE A MALE-ONLY DREAMLAND OF ROSES.
SAUSAGE CURRY, HE-HE...
KNOCK IT OFF!

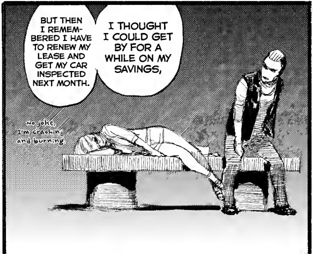

OH, GOD. WORK... WHAT AM I GONNA DO ABOUT WORK? HUEH...
AKAMON CLUB...?*
I'LL GIVE YOU A HAND. LET'S START LOOKING TOMORROW AFTERNOON, OKAY?

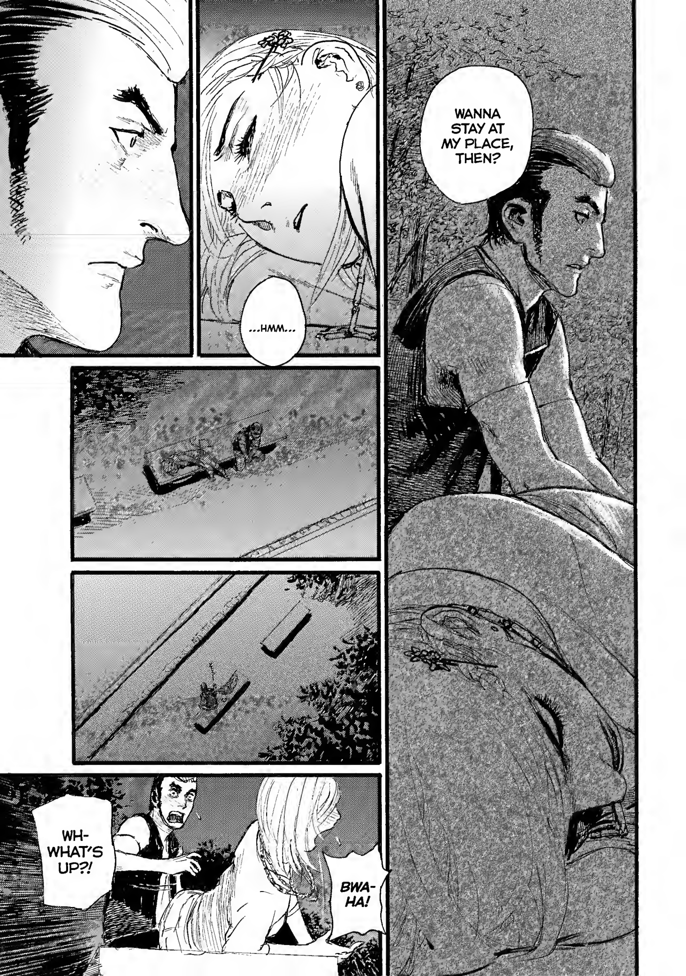
* A FAMOUS CABARET CLUB IN SUSUKINO.

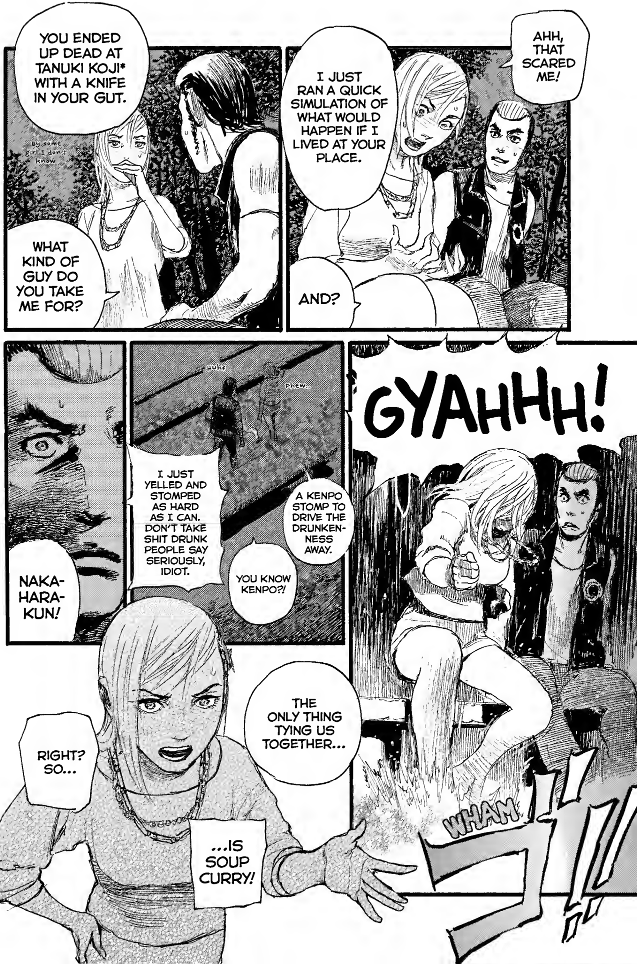

HOW DID THIS HAPPEN? SINCE MY LUCK WITH MEN DRIED UP...
MY WORK LUCK SHOULD BE INVERSELY PROPORTIONAL.
THIS ISN'T HOW IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE...
WHO TOLD YOU THAT?

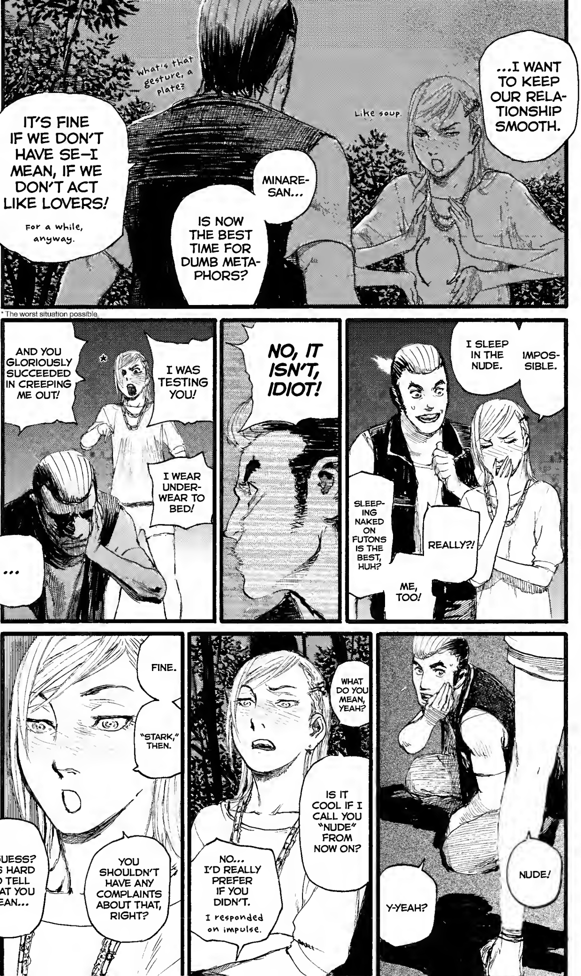
* PSYCHOLOGICAL ASTROLOGER AND DIVINATOR. ** FRAU: A WOMEN'S MAGAZINE FEATURING RYUJI KAGAMI'S STAR DIVINATIONS.


RYUJI KAGAMI-SENSEI,* DUMBASS! WHO ELSE?!
FRAU ...?**

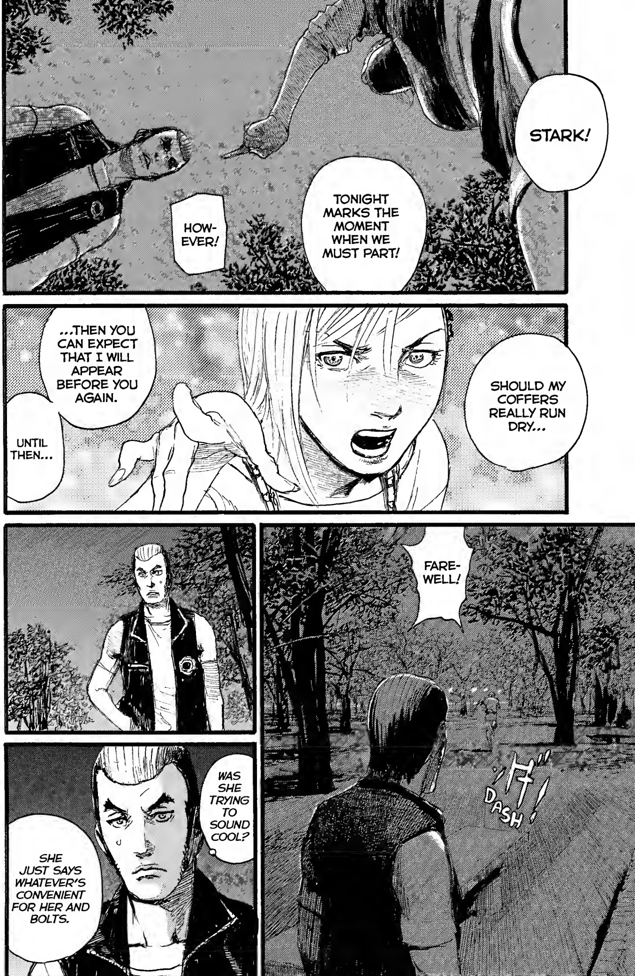

I THOUGHT I COULD GET BY FOR A WHILE ON MY SAVINGS,
BUT THEN I REMEMBERED I HAVE TO RENEW MY LEASE AND GET MY CAR INSPECTED NEXT MONTH.
No joke, I'm crashin' and burning

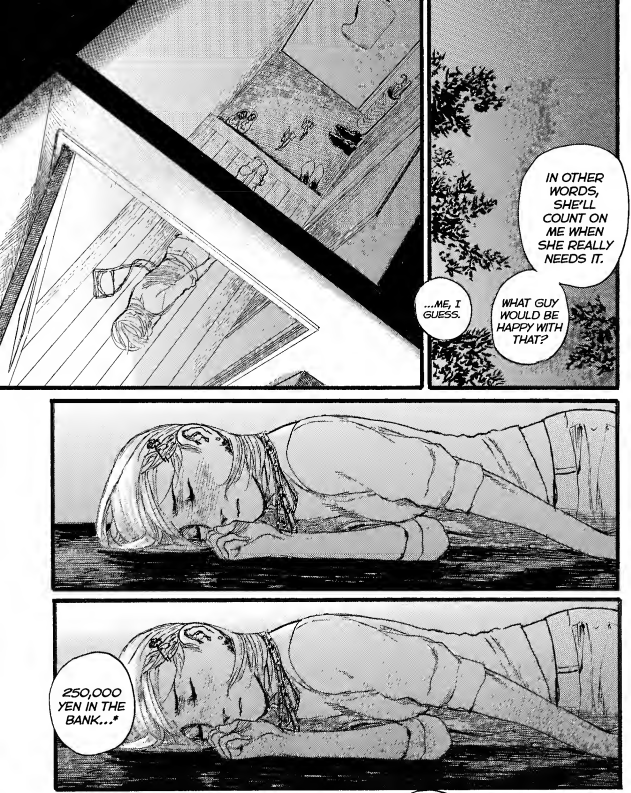

WANNA STAY AT MY PLACE, THEN?
...HMM...
BWA-HA!
WH-WHAT'S UP?!


AHH, THAT SCARED ME!
I JUST RAN A QUICK SIMULATION OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I LIVED AT YOUR PLACE.
AND?
YOU ENDED UP DEAD AT TANUKI KOJI* WITH A KNIFE IN YOUR GUT.
By some girl I don't know
WHAT KIND OF GUY DO YOU TAKE ME FOR?
GYAHHH!
WHAM
A KENPO STOMP TO DRIVE THE DRUNKENNESS AWAY.
Huh?
Phew..
YOU KNOW KENPO?!
I JUST YELLED AND STOMPED AS HARD AS I CAN. DON'T TAKE SHIT DRUNK PEOPLE SAY SERIOUSLY, IDIOT.
NAKAHARA-KUN!
RIGHT? SO...
THE ONLY THING TYING US TOGETHER...
...IS SOUP CURRY!

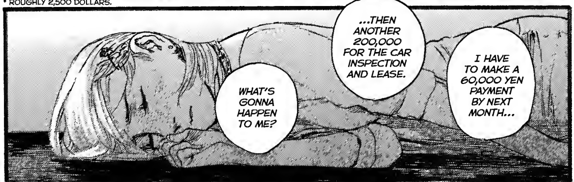

...I WANT TO KEEP OUR RELATIONSHIP SMOOTH.
Like soup.
what's that gesture, a plate?
MINARE-SAN...
IS NOW THE BEST TIME FOR DUMB METAPHORS?
IT'S FINE IF WE DON'T HAVE SE—I MEAN, IF WE DON'T ACT LIKE LOVERS!
For a while, anyway.
I SLEEP IN THE NUDE.
IMPOSSIBLE.
SLEEPING NAKED ON FUTONS IS THE BEST, HUH?
REALLY?!
ME, TOO!
NO, IT ISN'T, IDIOT!
I WAS TESTING YOU!
*
AND YOU GLORIOUSLY SUCCEEDED IN CREEPING ME OUT!
I WEAR UNDERWEAR TO BED!
...
NUDE!
Y-YEAH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YEAH?
IS IT COOL IF I CALL YOU "NUDE" FROM NOW ON?
NO... I'D REALLY PREFER IF YOU DIDN'T.
I responded on impulse.
FINE.
"STARK," THEN.
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY COMPLAINTS ABOUT THAT, RIGHT?
I GUESS? IT'S HARD TO TELL WHAT YOU MEAN...

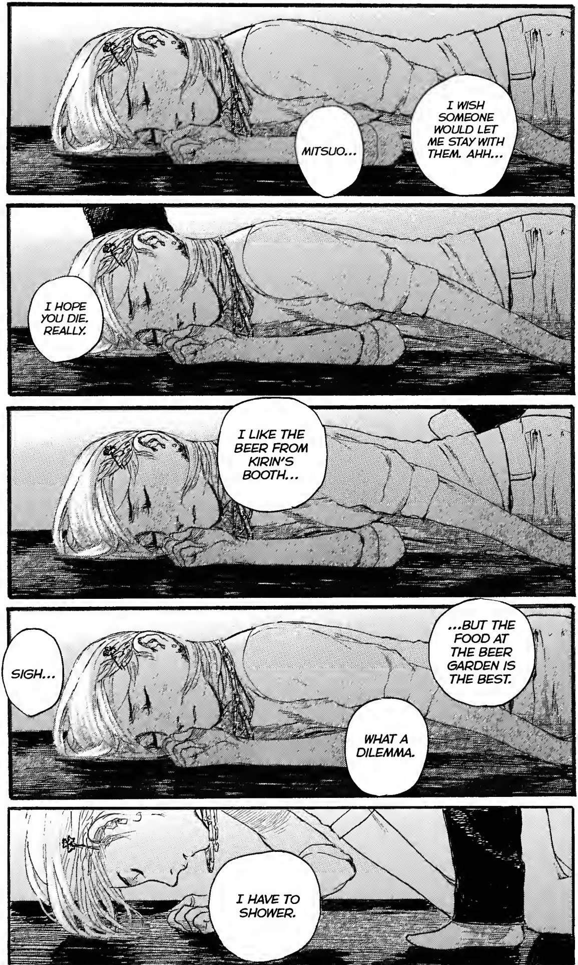
* The worst situation possible

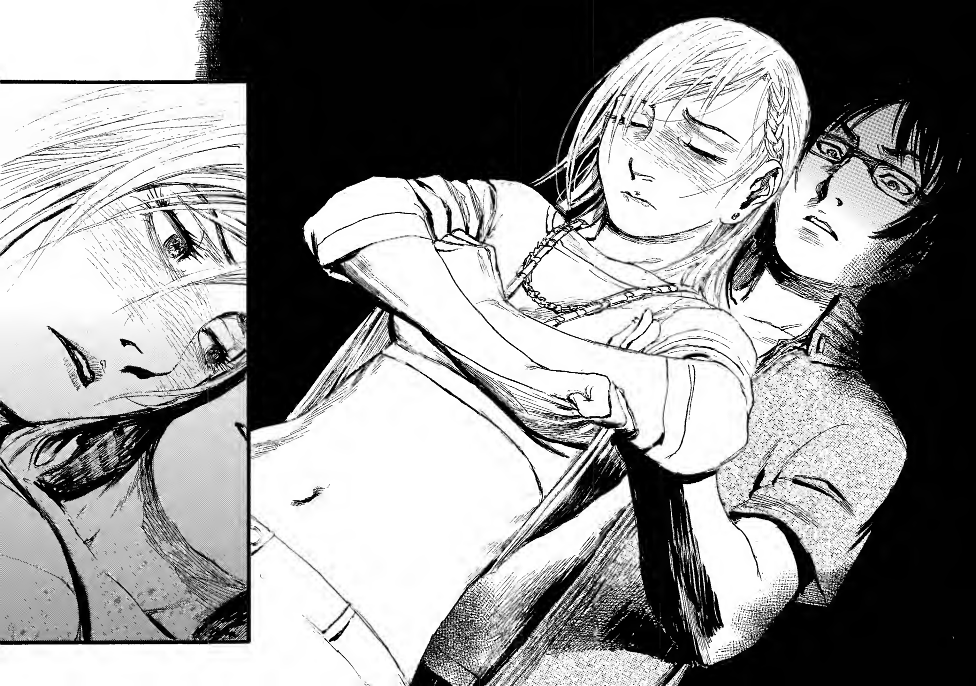

STARK!
TONIGHT MARKS THE MOMENT WHEN WE MUST PART!
HOWEVER!
SHOULD MY COFFERS REALLY RUN DRY...
...THEN YOU CAN EXPECT THAT I WILL APPEAR BEFORE YOU AGAIN.
UNTIL THEN...
FAREWELL!
DASH
WAS SHE TRYING TO SOUND COOL?
SHE JUST SAYS WHATEVER'S CONVENIENT FOR HER AND BOLTS.

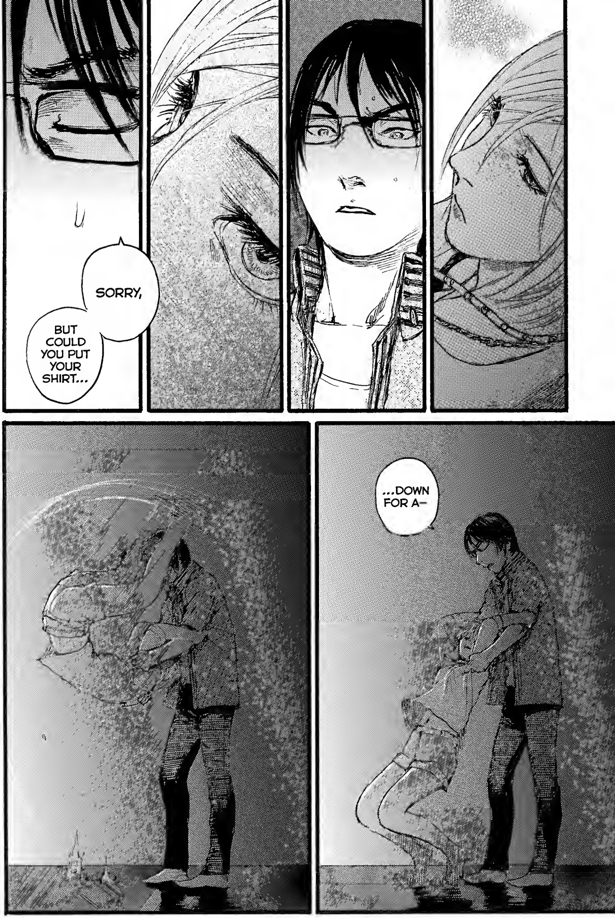

IN OTHER WORDS, SHE'LL COUNT ON ME WHEN SHE REALLY NEEDS IT.
WHAT GUY WOULD BE HAPPY WITH THAT?
...ME, I GUESS.
250,000 YEN IN THE BANK...*

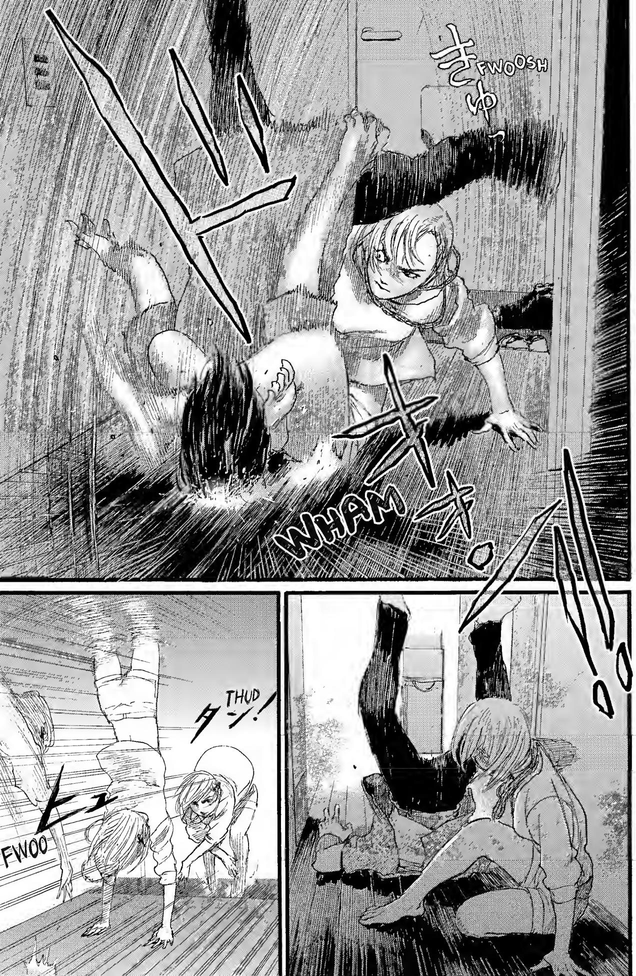
* ROUGHLY 2,500 DOLLARS.

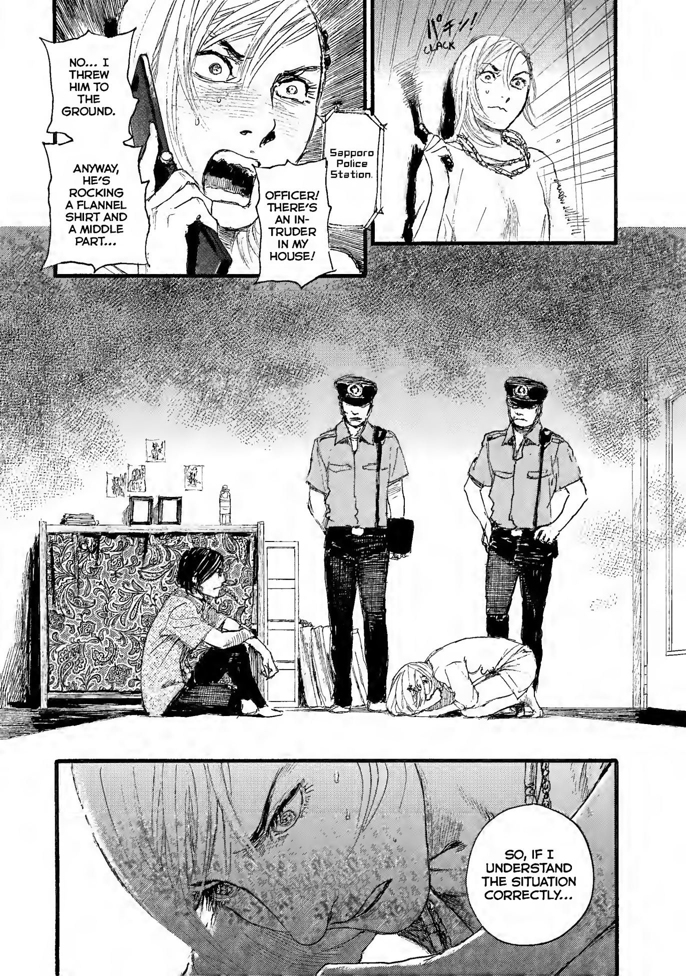

I HAVE TO MAKE A 60,000 YEN PAYMENT BY NEXT MONTH...
...THEN ANOTHER 200,000 FOR THE CAR INSPECTION AND LEASE.
WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO ME?

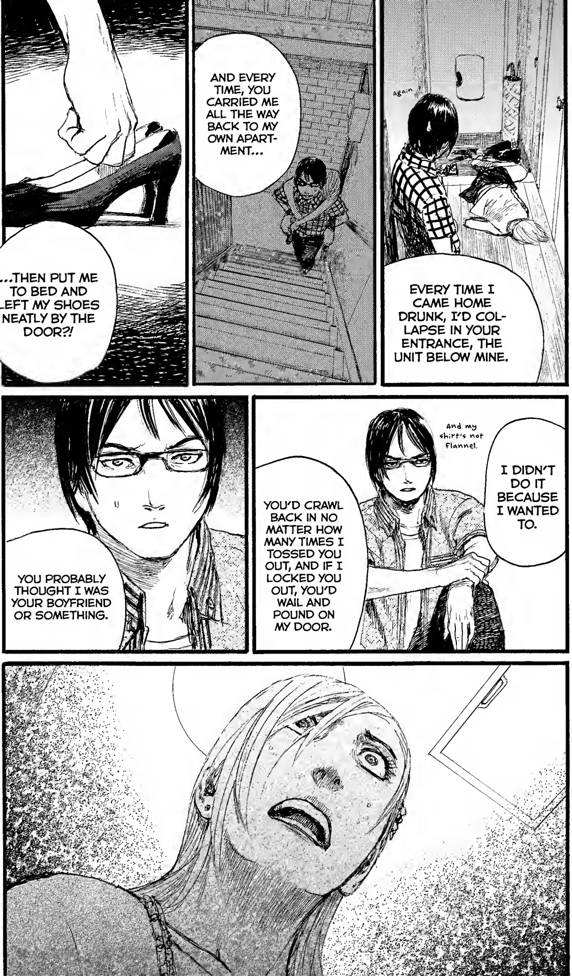

I WISH SOMEONE WOULD LET ME STAY WITH THEM. AHH...
MITSUO...
I HOPE YOU DIE. REALLY.
I LIKE THE BEER FROM KIRIN'S BOOTH...
...BUT THE FOOD AT THE BEER GARDEN IS THE BEST.
WHAT A DILEMMA.
SIGH...
I HAVE TO SHOWER.

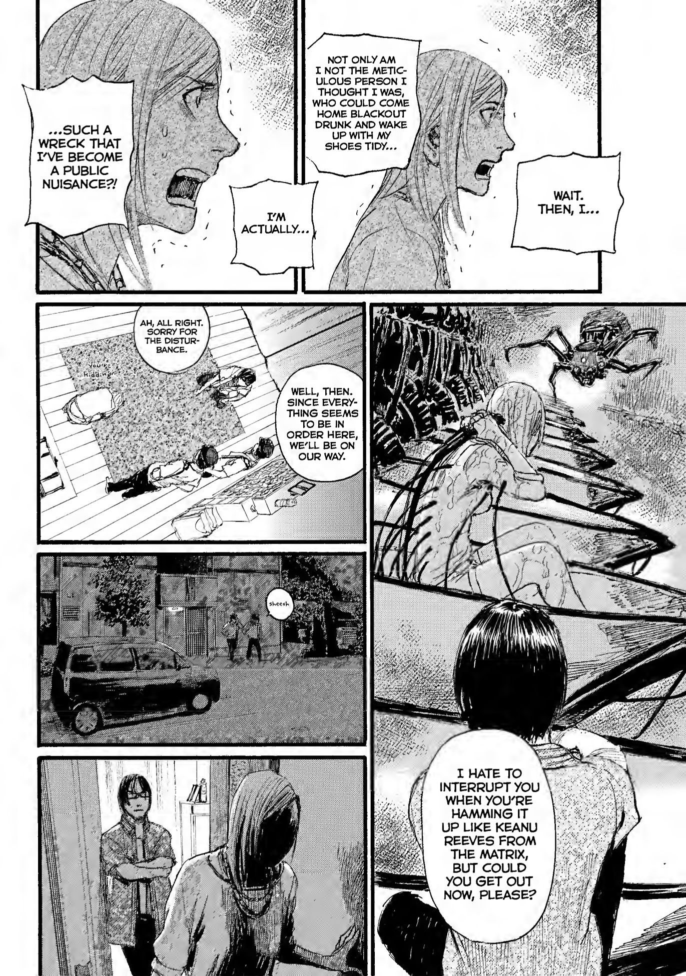


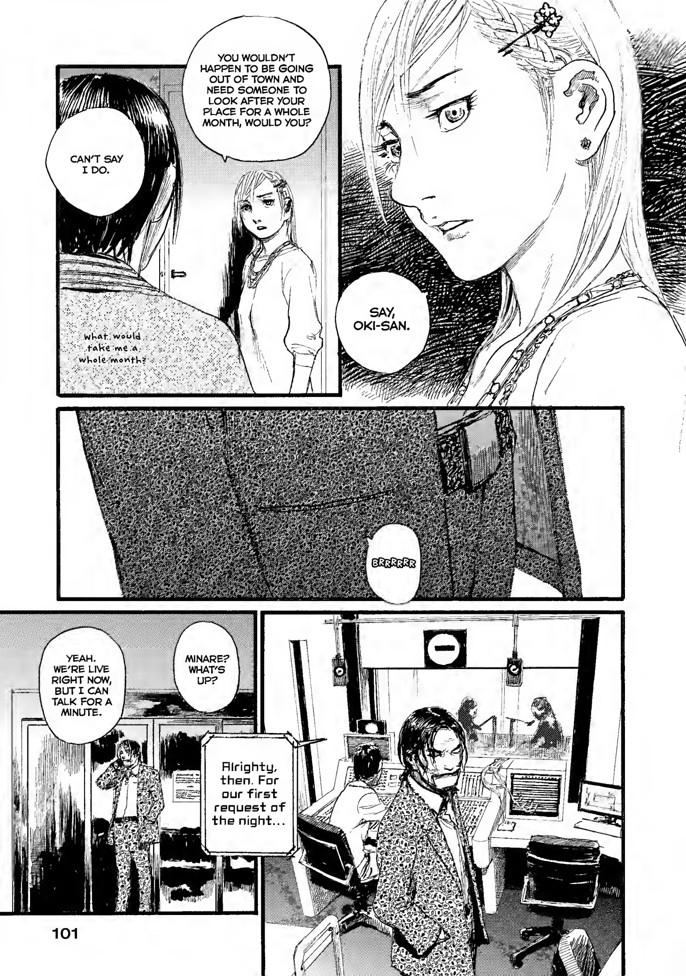

SORRY,
BUT COULD YOU PUT YOUR SHIRT...
...DOWN FOR A–

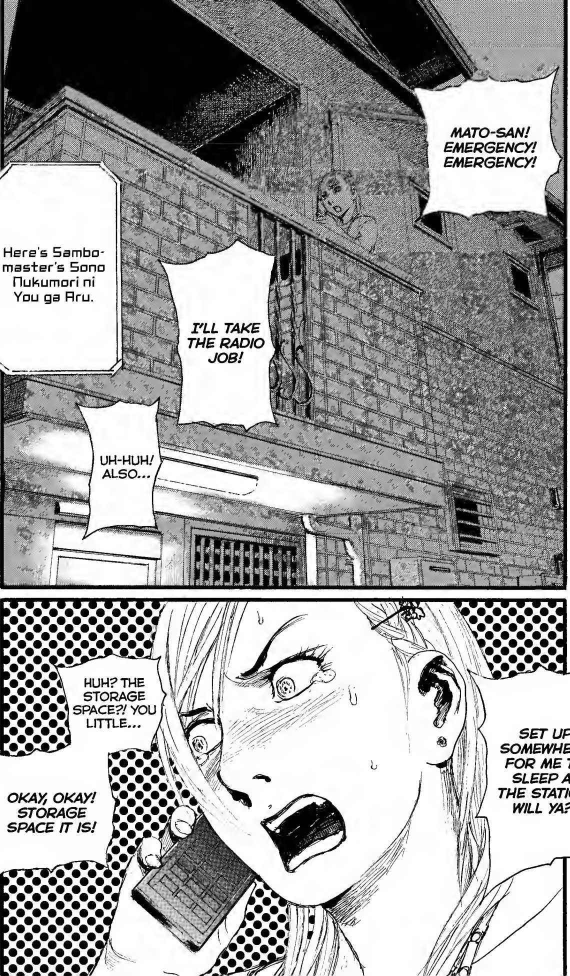

きゅっ
FWOOSH
ドォォッ!!
WHAM
タン!
THUD
ヒュ
FWOO


パチッ!
CLACK
Sapporo Police Station.
OFFICER! THERE'S AN INTRUDER IN MY HOUSE!
NO... I THREW HIM TO THE GROUND.
ANYWAY, HE'S ROCKING A FLANNEL SHIRT AND A MIDDLE PART...
SO, IF I UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION CORRECTLY...

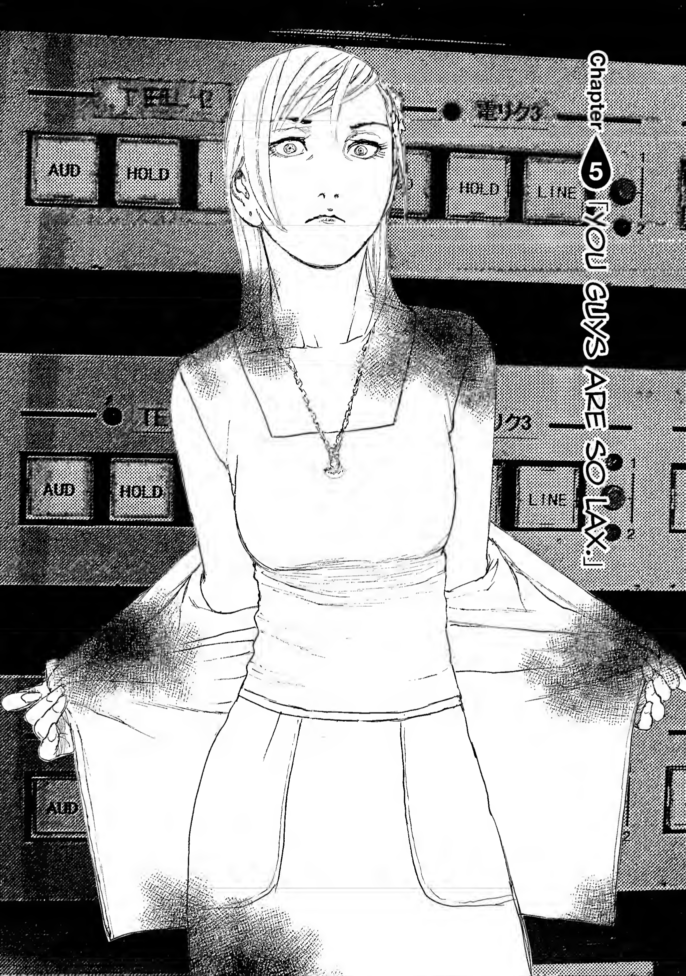

Again...?
EVERY TIME I CAME HOME DRUNK, I'D COLLAPSE IN YOUR ENTRANCE, THE UNIT BELOW MINE.
AND EVERY TIME, YOU CARRIED ME ALL THE WAY BACK TO MY OWN APARTMENT...
...THEN PUT ME TO BED AND LEFT MY SHOES NEATLY BY THE DOOR?!
I DIDN'T DO IT BECAUSE I WANTED TO.
And my shirt's not flannel.
YOU'D CRAWL BACK IN NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I TOSSED YOU OUT, AND IF I LOCKED YOU OUT, YOU'D WAIL AND POUND ON MY DOOR.
YOU PROBABLY THOUGHT I WAS YOUR BOYFRIEND OR SOMETHING.


WAIT. THEN, I...
NOT ONLY AM I NOT THE METICULOUS PERSON I THOUGHT I WAS, WHO COULD COME HOME BLACKOUT DRUNK AND WAKE UP WITH MY SHOES TIDY...
I'M ACTUALLY...
...SUCH A WRECK THAT I'VE BECOME A PUBLIC NUISANCE?!
I HATE TO INTERRUPT YOU WHEN YOU'RE HAMMING IT UP LIKE KEANU REEVES FROM THE MATRIX, BUT COULD YOU GET OUT NOW, PLEASE?
AH, ALL RIGHT. SORRY FOR THE DISTURBANCE.
WELL, THEN. SINCE EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE IN ORDER HERE, WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY.
you're kidding
sheesh


SAY, OKI-SAN.
YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE GOING OUT OF TOWN AND NEED SOMEONE TO LOOK AFTER YOUR PLACE FOR A WHOLE MONTH, WOULD YOU?
CAN'T SAY I DO.
what would take me a whole month?
BRRRRRR
Alrighty, then. For our first request of the night...
MINARE? WHAT'S UP?
YEAH. WE'RE LIVE RIGHT NOW, BUT I CAN TALK FOR A MINUTE.


MATO-SAN! EMERGENCY! EMERGENCY!
I'LL TAKE THE RADIO JOB!
Here's Sambo-master's Sono Nukumori ni You ga Aru.
UH-HUH! ALSO...
SET UP SOMEWHERE FOR ME TO SLEEP AT THE STATION, WILL YA?!
HUH? THE STORAGE SPACE?! YOU LITTLE...
OKAY, OKAY! STORAGE SPACE IT IS!

Chapter 5「YOU GUYS ARE SO LAX..」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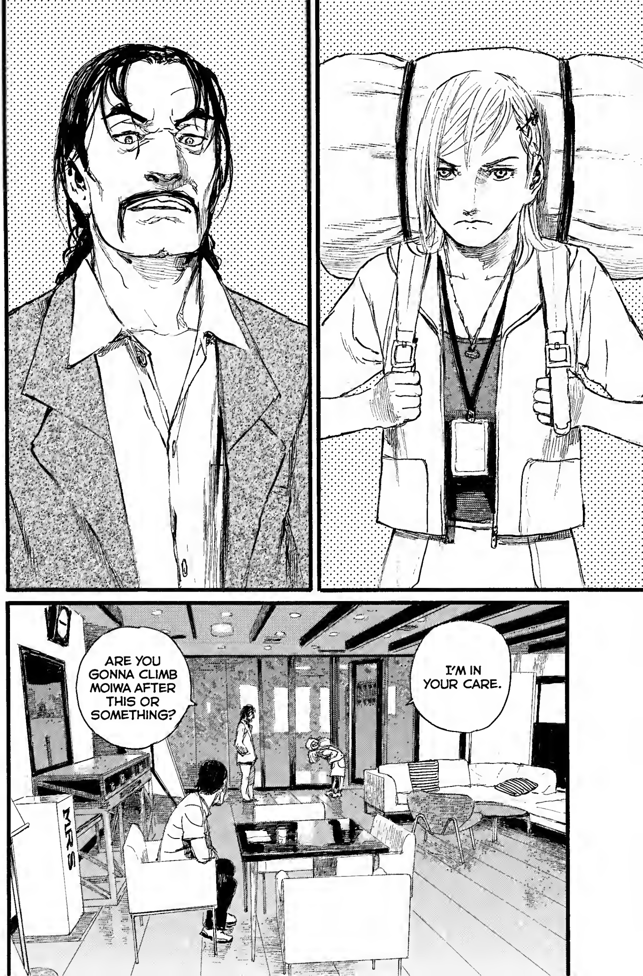
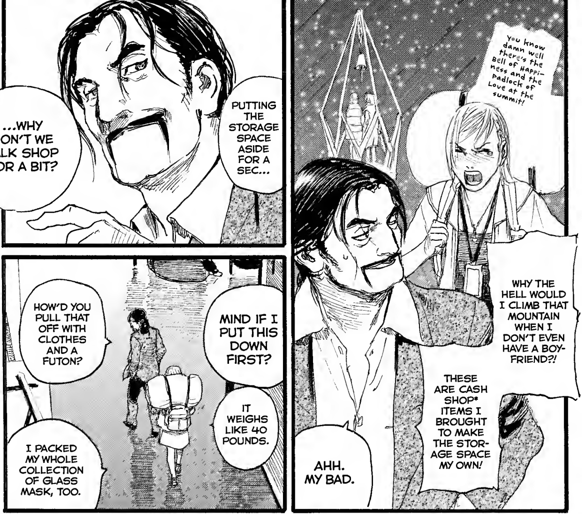
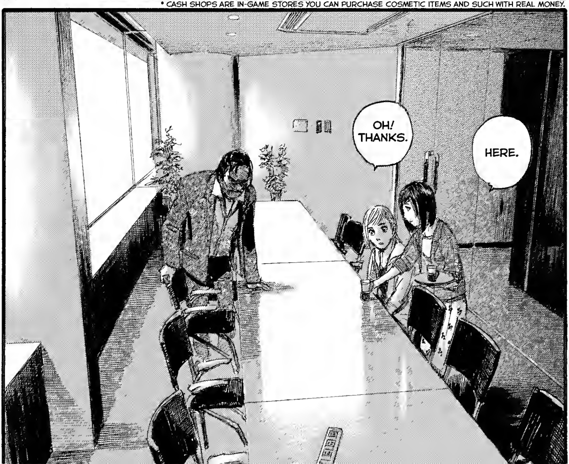
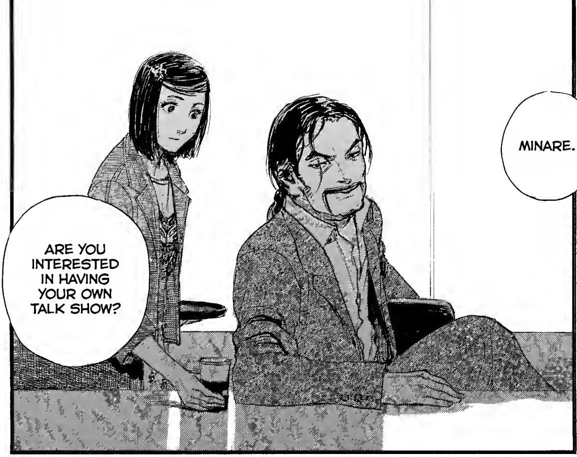
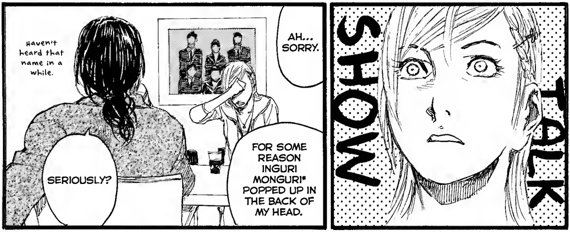

I'M IN YOUR CARE.
ARE YOU GONNA CLIMB MOIWA AFTER THIS OR SOMETHING?
MRS


You know damn well there's the Bell of Happiness and the Padlock of Love at the summit!
WHY THE HELL WOULD I CLIMB THAT MOUNTAIN WHEN I DON'T EVEN HAVE A BOYFRIEND?!
THESE ARE CASH SHOP* ITEMS I BROUGHT TO MAKE THE STORAGE SPACE MY OWN!
AHH. MY BAD.
PUTTING THE STORAGE SPACE ASIDE FOR A SEC...
...WHY DON'T WE TALK SHOP FOR A BIT?
MIND IF I PUT THIS DOWN FIRST?
IT WEIGHS LIKE 40 POUNDS.
HOW'D YOU PULL THAT OFF WITH CLOTHES AND A FUTON?
I PACKED MY WHOLE COLLECTION OF GLASS MASK, TOO.

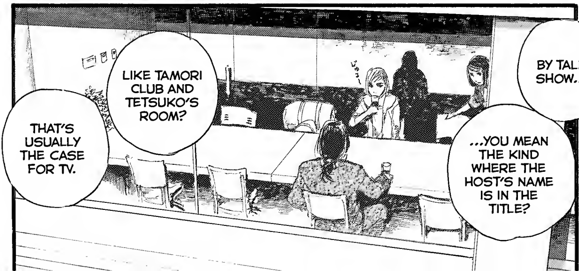
* CASH SHOPS ARE IN-GAME STORES YOU CAN PURCHASE COSMETIC ITEMS AND SUCH WITH REAL MONEY.

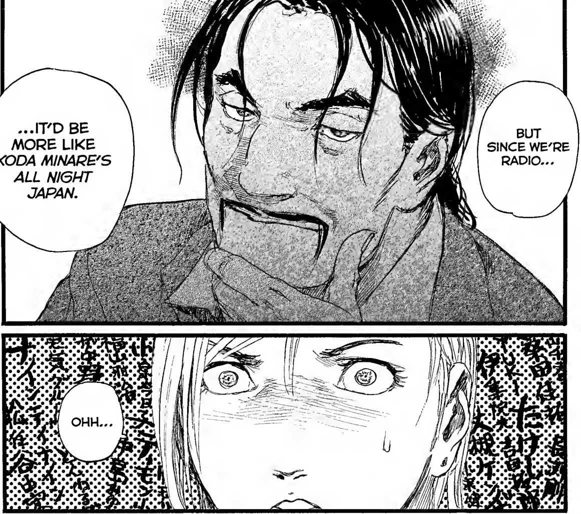

HERE.
OH! THANKS.


MINARE.
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HAVING YOUR OWN TALK SHOW?

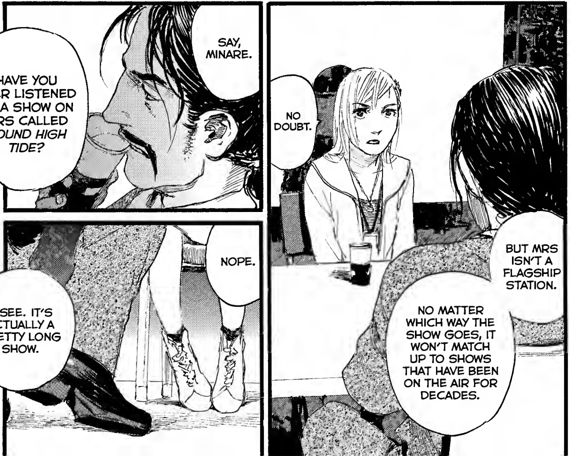

TALK SHOW
AH... SORRY.
FOR SOME REASON INGURI MONGURI* POPPED UP IN THE BACK OF MY HEAD.
Haven't heard that name in a while.
SERIOUSLY?

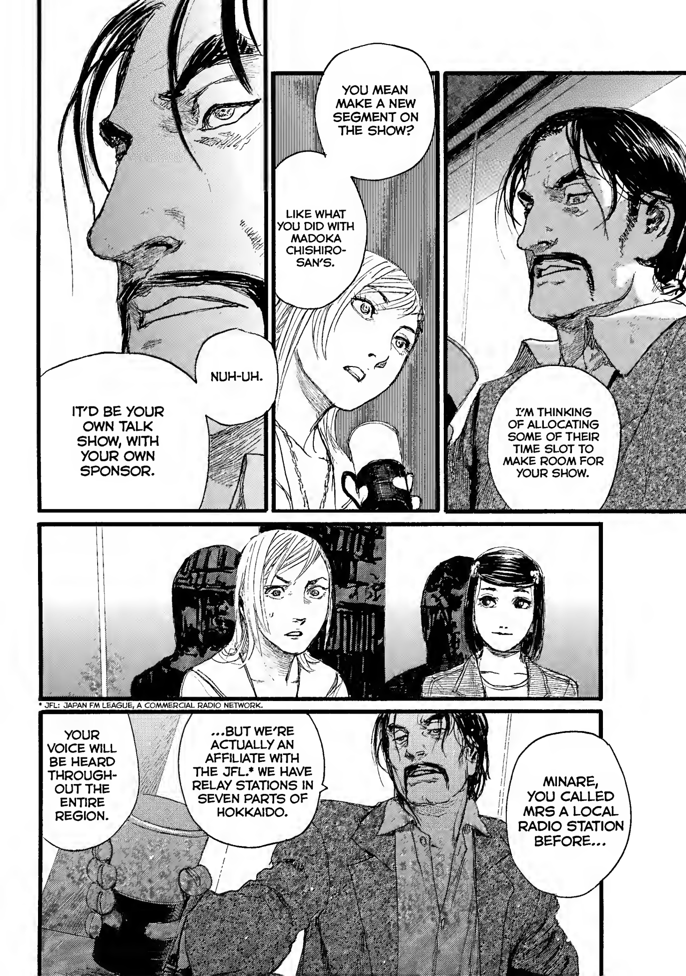
* A BAND ACTIVE IN THE LATE 80S. THIS IS A PUN BASED ON KANMURI BANGUMI (冠番組), THE AFOREMENTIONED "TALK SHOW" MATO MENTIONS. MINARE PROBABLY THOUGHT OF INGURI MONGURI BECAUSE OF THE SIMILAR INTONATION.


BY TALK SHOW...
...YOU MEAN THE KIND WHERE THE HOST'S NAME IS IN THE TITLE?
LIKE TAMORI CLUB AND TETSUKO'S ROOM?
THAT'S USUALLY THE CASE FOR TV.

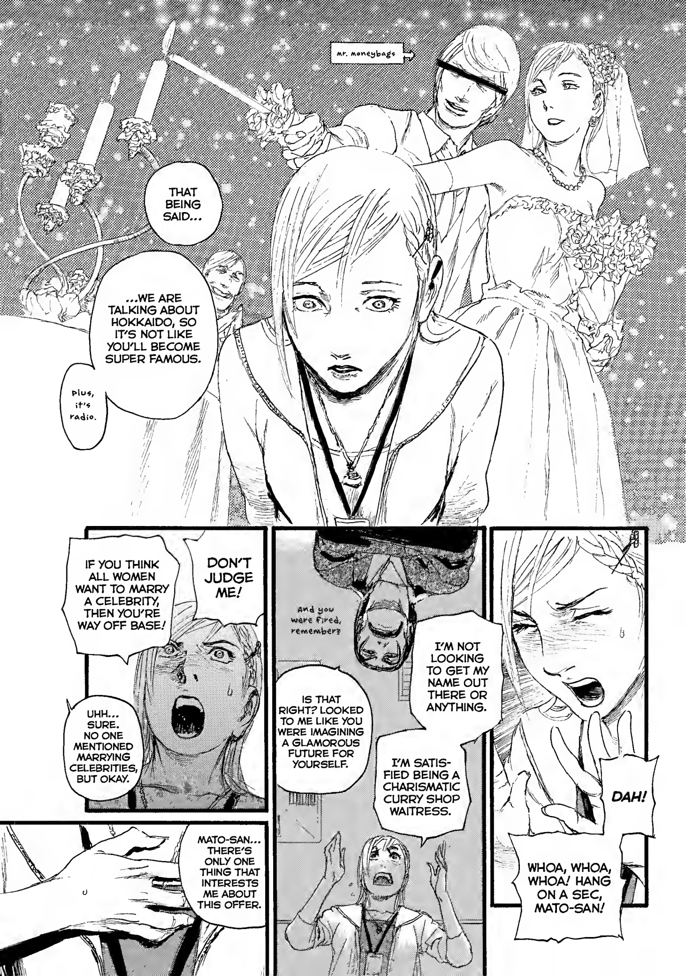

BUT SINCE WE'RE RADIO...
...IT'D BE MORE LIKE *KODA MINARE'S ALL NIGHT JAPAN.*
OHH...

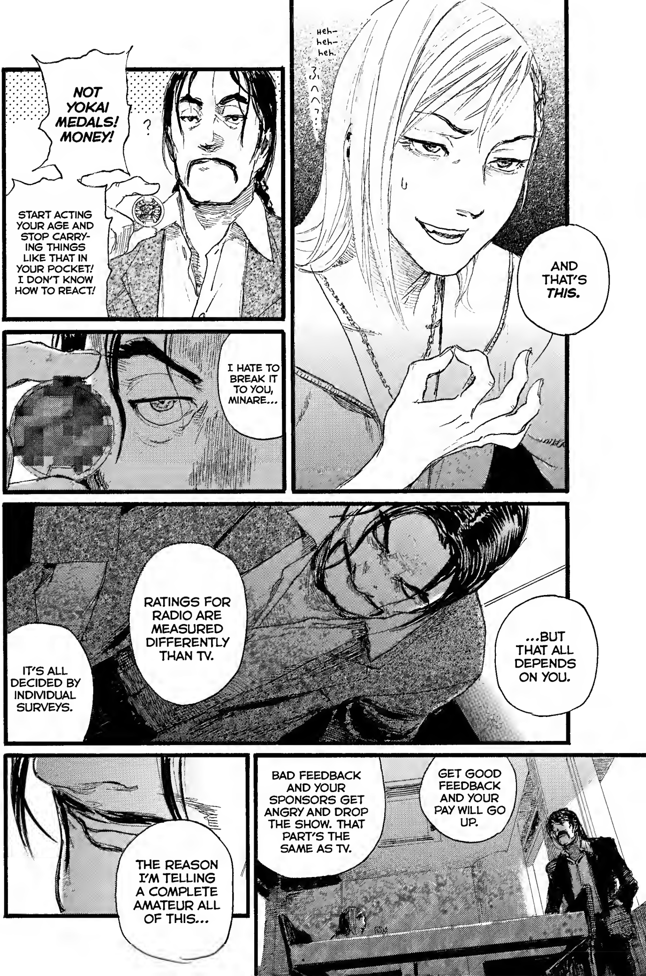
* NAMES OF VARIOUS JAPANESE CELEBRITIES.

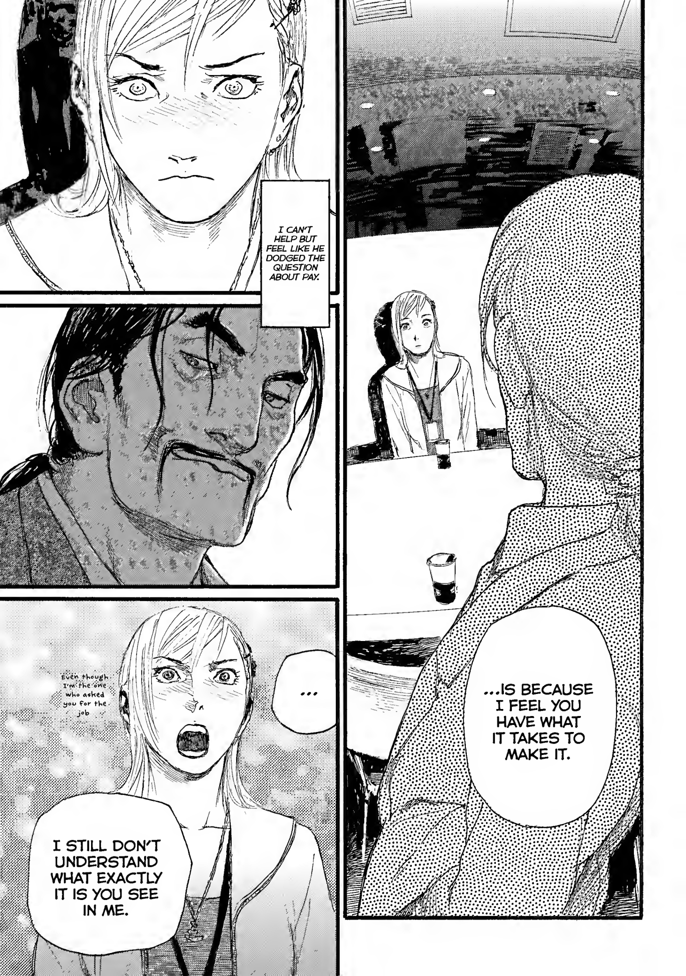

SAY, MINARE.
HAVE YOU EVER LISTENED TO A SHOW ON MRS CALLED *SOUND HIGH TIDE?*
NOPE.
I SEE. IT'S ACTUALLY A PRETTY LONG SHOW.
BUT MRS ISN'T A FLAGSHIP STATION.
NO MATTER WHICH WAY THE SHOW GOES, IT WON'T MATCH UP TO SHOWS THAT HAVE BEEN ON THE AIR FOR DECADES.
NO DOUBT.

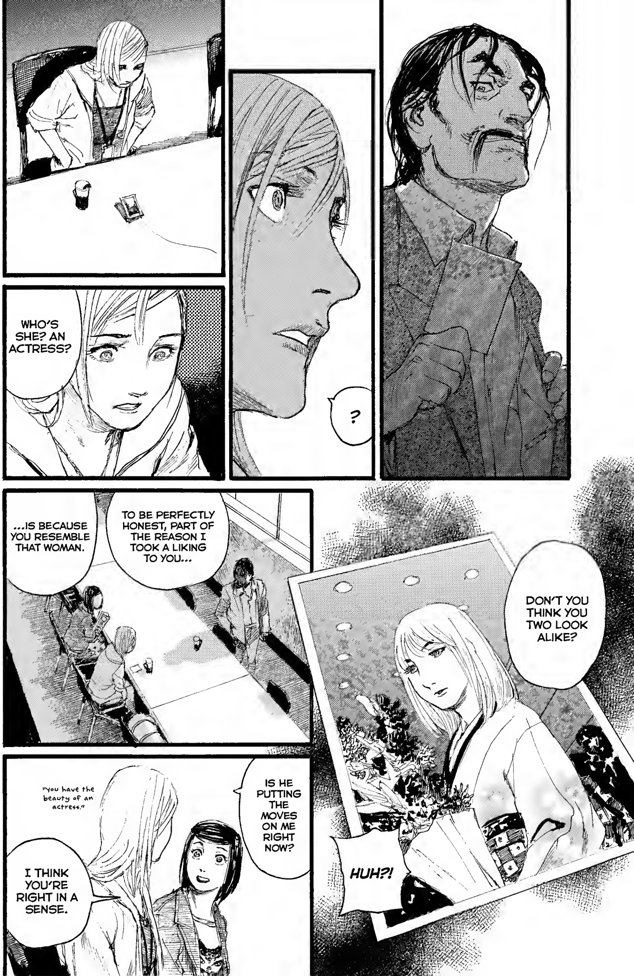

I'M THINKING OF ALLOCATING SOME OF THEIR TIME SLOT TO MAKE ROOM FOR YOUR SHOW.
YOU MEAN MAKE A NEW SEGMENT ON THE SHOW?
LIKE WHAT YOU DID WITH MADOKA CHISHIRO-SAN'S.
NUH-UH.
IT'D BE YOUR OWN TALK SHOW, WITH YOUR OWN SPONSOR.
MINARE, YOU CALLED MRS A LOCAL RADIO STATION BEFORE...
...BUT WE'RE ACTUALLY AN AFFILIATE WITH THE JFL.* WE HAVE RELAY STATIONS IN SEVEN PARTS OF HOKKAIDO.
YOUR VOICE WILL BE HEARD THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE REGION.

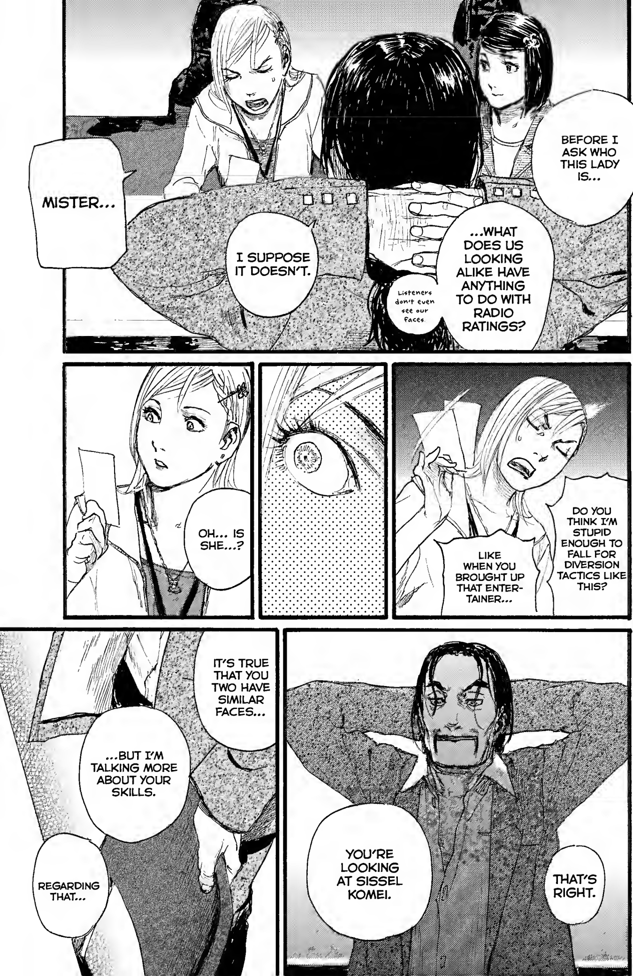
* JFL: JAPAN FM LEAGUE, A COMMERCIAL RADIO NETWORK.

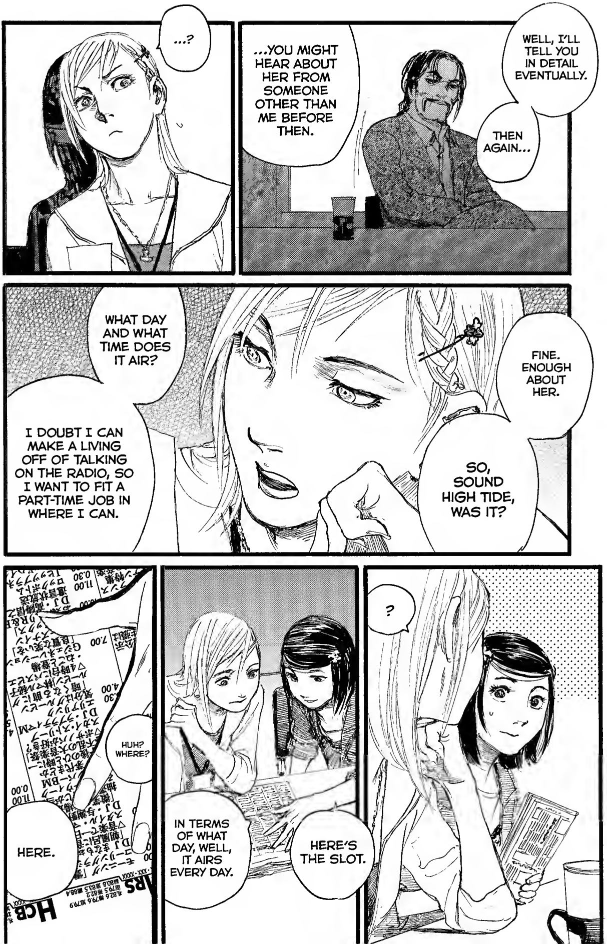

mr. moneybags
THAT BEING SAID...
...WE ARE TALKING ABOUT HOKKAIDO, SO IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'LL BECOME SUPER FAMOUS.
plus, it's radio.
DAH!
WHOA, WHOA, WHOA! HANG ON A SEC, MATO-SAN!
I'M NOT LOOKING TO GET MY NAME OUT THERE OR ANYTHING.
I'M SATIS-FIED BEING A CHARISMATIC CURRY SHOP WAITRESS.
IS THAT RIGHT? LOOKED TO ME LIKE YOU WERE IMAGINING A GLAMOROUS FUTURE FOR YOURSELF.
And you were fired, remember?
DON'T JUDGE ME!
IF YOU THINK ALL WOMEN WANT TO MARRY A CELEBRITY, THEN YOU'RE WAY OFF BASE!
UHH... SURE. NO ONE MENTIONED MARRYING CELEBRITIES, BUT OKAY.
MATO-SAN... THERE'S ONLY ONE THING THAT INTERESTS ME ABOUT THIS OFFER.

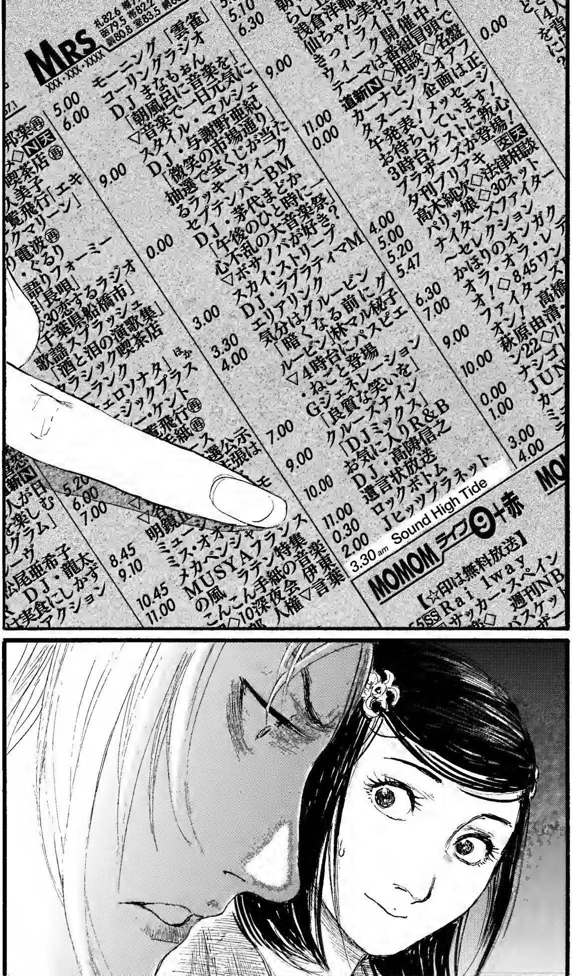

Heh-heh-heh.
ふへへ…
AND THAT'S *THIS.*
NOT YOKAI MEDALS! MONEY!
?
START ACTING YOUR AGE AND STOP CARRYING THINGS LIKE THAT IN YOUR POCKET! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO REACT!
I HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, MINARE...
RATINGS FOR RADIO ARE MEASURED DIFFERENTLY THAN TV.
IT'S ALL DECIDED BY INDIVIDUAL SURVEYS.
...BUT THAT ALL DEPENDS ON YOU.
GET GOOD FEEDBACK AND YOUR PAY WILL GO UP.
BAD FEEDBACK AND YOUR SPONSORS GET ANGRY AND DROP THE SHOW. THAT PART'S THE SAME AS TV.
THE REASON I'M TELLING A COMPLETE AMATEUR ALL OF THIS...


I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL LIKE HE DODGED THE QUESTION ABOUT PAY.
Even though I'm the one who asked you for the job
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT EXACTLY IT IS YOU SEE IN ME.
...
...IS BECAUSE I FEEL YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE IT.


WHO'S SHE? AN ACTRESS?
?
DON'T YOU THINK YOU TWO LOOK ALIKE?
HUH?!
TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST, PART OF THE REASON I TOOK A LIKING TO YOU...
...IS BECAUSE YOU RESEMBLE THAT WOMAN.
IS HE PUTTING THE MOVES ON ME RIGHT NOW?
"You have the beauty of an actress."
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT IN A SENSE.


BEFORE I ASK WHO THIS LADY IS...
...WHAT DOES US LOOKING ALIKE HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH RADIO RATINGS?
Listeners don't even see our faces
I SUPPOSE IT DOESN'T.
MISTER...
DO YOU THINK I'M STUPID ENOUGH TO FALL FOR DIVERSION TACTICS LIKE THIS?
LIKE WHEN YOU BROUGHT UP THAT ENTERTAINER...
OH... IS SHE...?
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU'RE LOOKING AT SISSEL KOMEI.
IT'S TRUE THAT YOU TWO HAVE SIMILAR FACES...
...BUT I'M TALKING MORE ABOUT YOUR SKILLS.
REGARDING THAT...


WELL, I'LL TELL YOU IN DETAIL EVENTUALLY.
THEN AGAIN...
...YOU MIGHT HEAR ABOUT HER FROM SOMEONE OTHER THAN ME BEFORE THEN.
...?
FINE. ENOUGH ABOUT HER.
SO, SOUND HIGH TIDE, WAS IT?
WHAT DAY AND WHAT TIME DOES IT AIR?
I DOUBT I CAN MAKE A LIVING OFF OF TALKING ON THE RADIO, SO I WANT TO FIT A PART-TIME JOB IN WHERE I CAN.
?
HERE'S THE SLOT.
IN TERMS OF WHAT DAY, WELL, IT AIRS EVERY DAY.
HUH? WHERE?
HERE.



MRS XXX・XXX・XXXX
札82.6 函79.5 帯82.2 釧80.8 室83.5

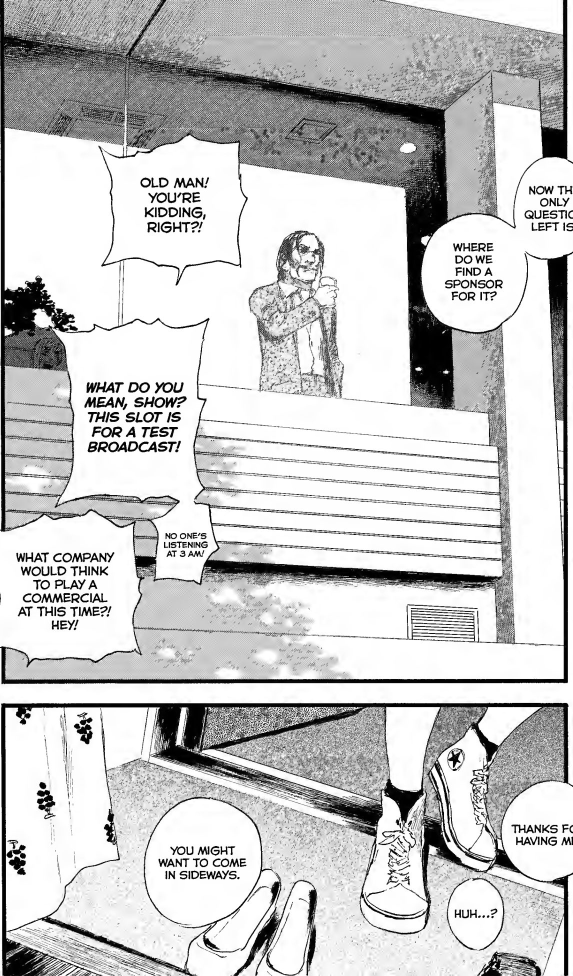
5.00 モーニング「雲雀」
コーリングラジオ
DJ まなもちゃん
6.00 「朝風呂に音楽を」
▽音楽で一日元気に
スタイル・マルシェ
DJ・与謝野亜紀
9.00 「微笑の市場通り」
抽選で宝くじが当た
るラッキーウィーク
セプテンバーBM
DJ・茅代まどか
0.00 「午後のひと時に一
心不乱の大音楽祭」
▽ボサノバが好き？
スカイ・ストリープ
DJ・ラブラティマM
3.00 エリアリンク
気分はグルーピン
3.30 「暗くなる前にグ
4.00 ルーピン」林マル秘子
▽4時台にパスピエ
・ねごと登場
Gジェネレーション
7.00 「良質な笑いを」
クルーズナイン
「DJミックス」
9.00 お気に入りR&B
DJ・高陣信之
10.00 遺言状放送
11.00 ロックボトム
0.30 Jヒッツプラネット
2.00
3.30 am Sound High Tide

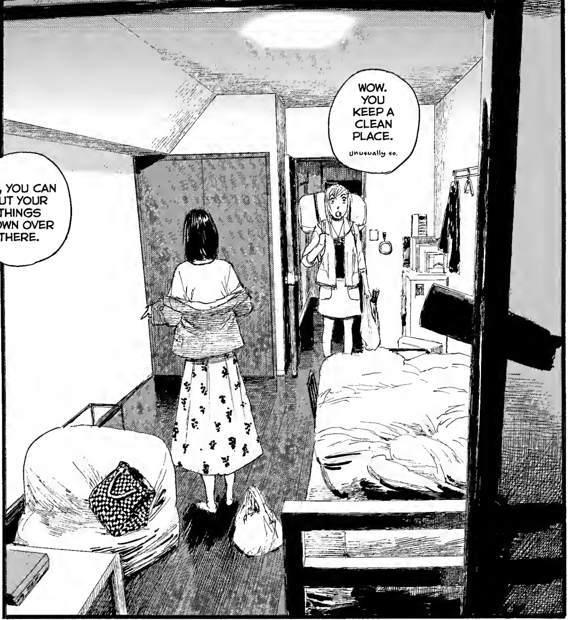
5.10
6.30
浅倉洋輔
仙ちゃん美
きっ！ライ
9.00 ウィーク開催中！
テーマは番組冒頭で
道新N◇相談◇名盤
カーナビラジオアフ
11.00 タヌーン 企画は正
0.00 午発表！メッセージ
お待ちしています！
3時台ゲストに新心
ブラザーズが登場！
夕刊ブリアキ 交天
4.00 高木純次◇法律相談
5.00 パリッ娘◇30ネット
5.20 ナイターズファイター
5.47 〜セレクション
6.30 かほりのオンガク
7.00 オラ・オラ・レデ
オ！◇8.45ワン
9.00 ファイターズ
オン！高橋
10.00 萩原由清・
ジ22◇11
ナシゴ
0.00 JUN
1.00 カー
3.00
4.00
0.00

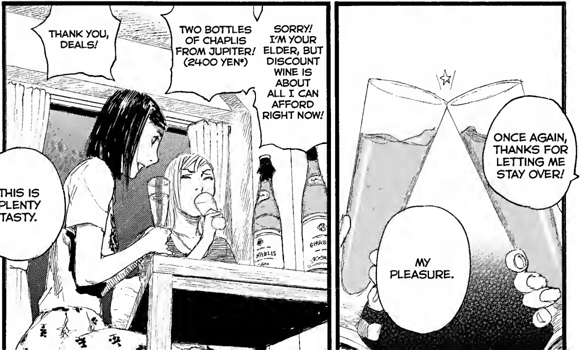
邦楽(再)
ス◇N天
喫茶店(再)
久美子
覧飛行「エキ
クマリーン」
り電波(再)
・ぐるり
語りフォーミー
「長唄」
30恋するラジオ
千葉県船橋市」
歌謡スプラッシュ
「酒と泪の演歌集」
クラシック喫茶店
ーランク
チェロソナタ」ほか
ージックプラス
ー・ケント
覧飛行(再)
紙(再)
選公示
張は

新N
人が日
楽しむ
グラム」
レーザ
松尾亜希子
DJ・龍太
実食にしかず
アクション
5.20
6.00
7.00
明鏡
8.45 ミュージャ
9.10 ミス・オオ
メカペンシャ フランス
10.45 MUSYA ラテン特集
11.00 の風 こんこん手紙の音楽 伊東
◇10深夜会 人権▽言葉

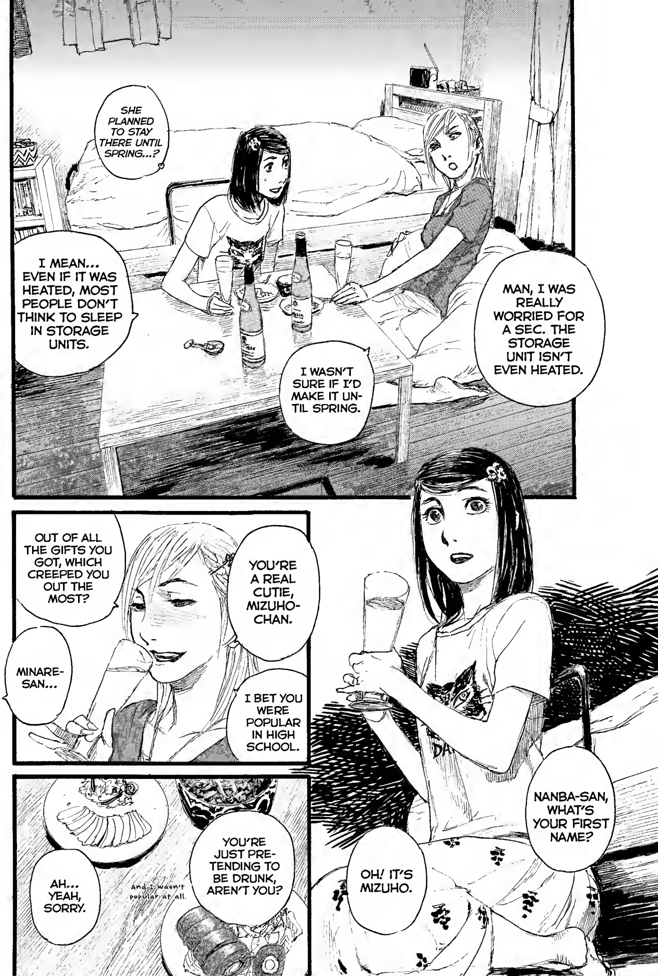
MOMOM ライブ⑨+赤
【☆印は無料放送】
Rai 1way
55SS サッカー・スペイン 週刊NB
バスケ

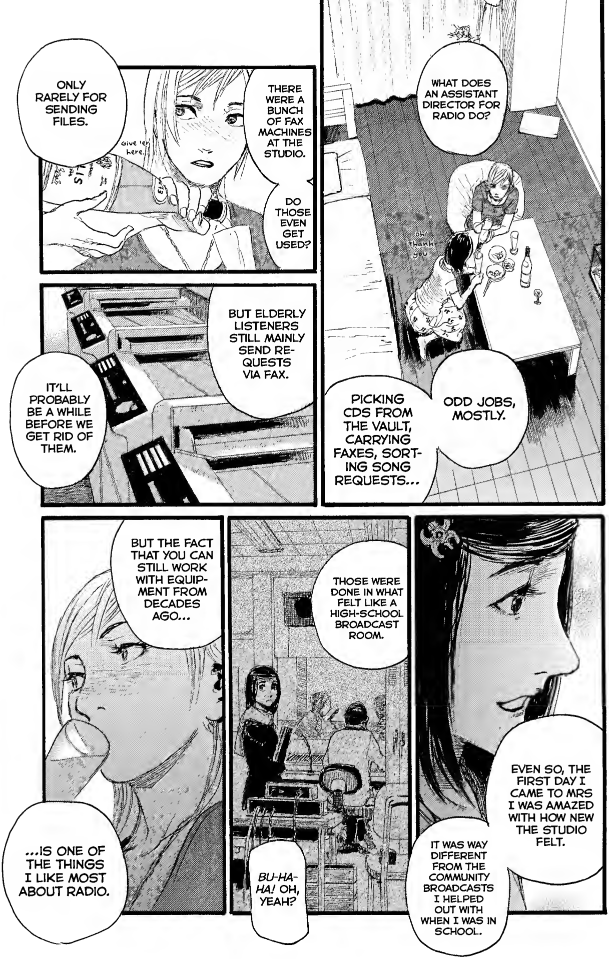

NOW THE ONLY QUESTION LEFT IS,
WHERE DO WE FIND A SPONSOR FOR IT?
OLD MAN! YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, SHOW? THIS SLOT IS FOR A TEST BROADCAST!
NO ONE'S LISTENING AT 3 AM!
WHAT COMPANY WOULD THINK TO PLAY A COMMERCIAL AT THIS TIME?! HEY!
THANKS FOR HAVING ME.
HUH...?
YOU MIGHT WANT TO COME IN SIDEWAYS.

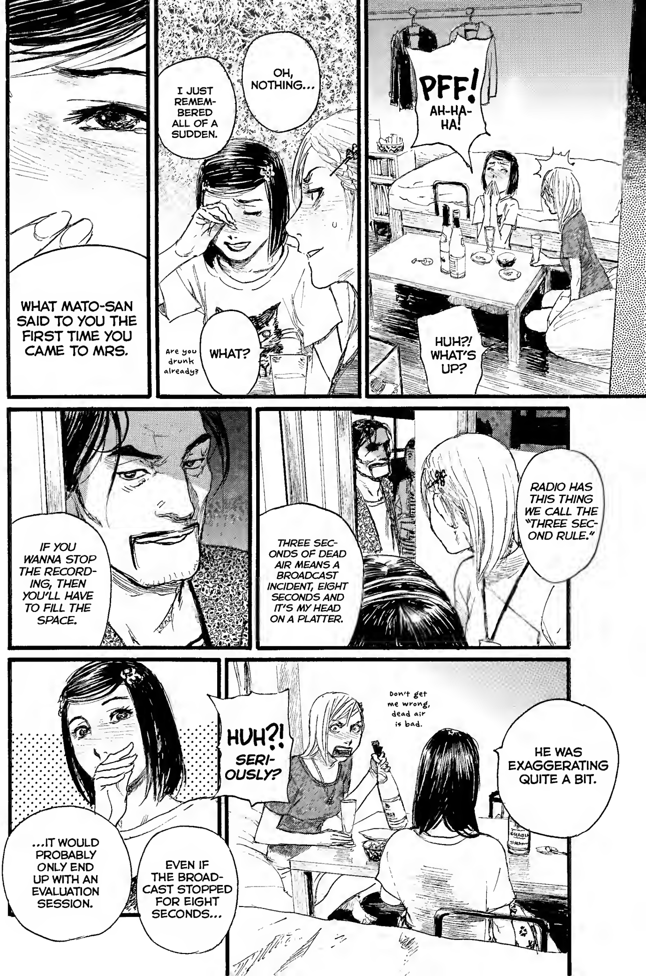

WOW. YOU KEEP A CLEAN PLACE.
unusually so.
OH, YOU CAN PUT YOUR THINGS DOWN OVER THERE.

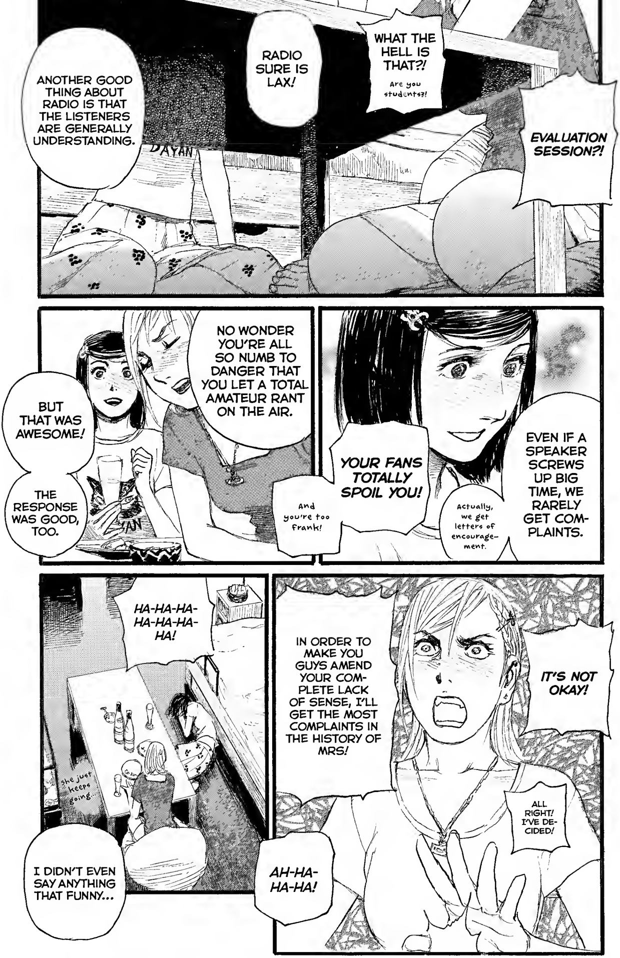

☆
ONCE AGAIN, THANKS FOR LETTING ME STAY OVER!
MY PLEASURE.
SORRY! I'M YOUR ELDER, BUT DISCOUNT WINE IS ABOUT ALL I CAN AFFORD RIGHT NOW!
TWO BOTTLES OF CHAPLIS FROM JUPITER! (2400 YEN*)
THANK YOU, DEALS!
THIS IS PLENTY TASTY.
CHABLIS
CHAB

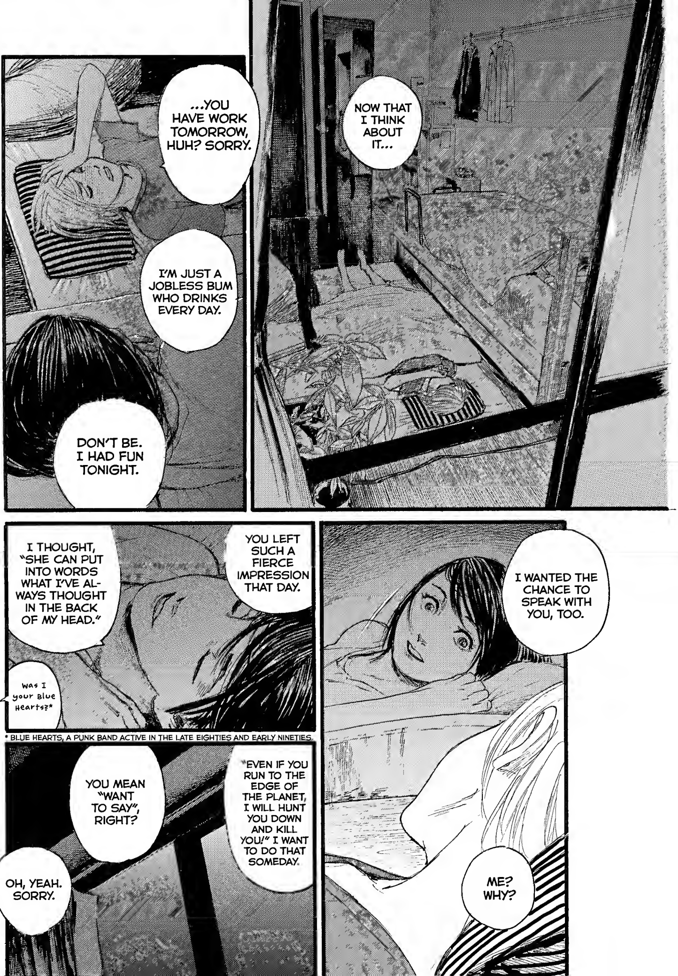
* ABOUT 24 DOLLARS.


MAN, I WAS REALLY WORRIED FOR A SEC. THE STORAGE UNIT ISN'T EVEN HEATED.
I WASN'T SURE IF I'D MAKE IT UNTIL SPRING.
SHE PLANNED TO STAY THERE UNTIL SPRING...?
I MEAN... EVEN IF IT WAS HEATED, MOST PEOPLE DON'T THINK TO SLEEP IN STORAGE UNITS.
NANBA-SAN, WHAT'S YOUR FIRST NAME?
OH! IT'S MIZUHO.
YOU'RE A REAL CUTIE, MIZUHO-CHAN.
I BET YOU WERE POPULAR IN HIGH SCHOOL.
OUT OF ALL THE GIFTS YOU GOT, WHICH CREEPED YOU OUT THE MOST?
MINARE-SAN...
YOU'RE JUST PRETENDING TO BE DRUNK, AREN'T YOU?
AH... YEAH, SORRY.
And I wasn't popular at all.

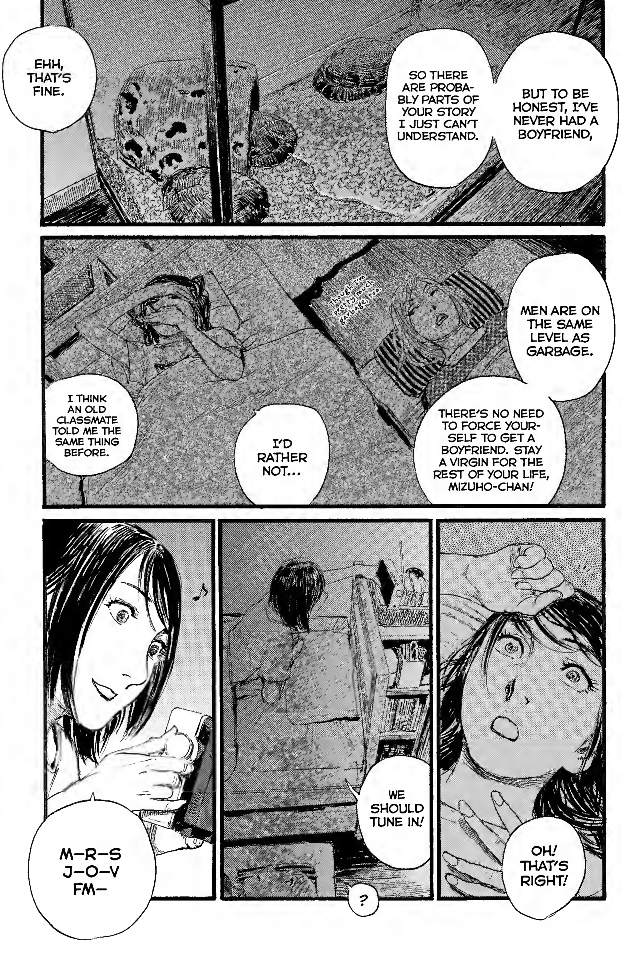

WHAT DOES AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR RADIO DO?
ok! Thank you
ODD JOBS, MOSTLY.
PICKING CDS FROM THE VAULT, CARRYING FAXES, SORTING SONG REQUESTS...
THERE WERE A BUNCH OF FAX MACHINES AT THE STUDIO.
DO THOSE EVEN GET USED?
ONLY RARELY FOR SENDING FILES.
Give 'er here.
BUT ELDERLY LISTENERS STILL MAINLY SEND REQUESTS VIA FAX.
IT'LL PROBABLY BE A WHILE BEFORE WE GET RID OF THEM.
EVEN SO, THE FIRST DAY I CAME TO MRS I WAS AMAZED WITH HOW NEW THE STUDIO FELT.
IT WAS WAY DIFFERENT FROM THE COMMUNITY BROADCASTS I HELPED OUT WITH WHEN I WAS IN SCHOOL.
THOSE WERE DONE IN WHAT FELT LIKE A HIGH-SCHOOL BROADCAST ROOM.
BU-HA-HA! OH, YEAH?
BUT THE FACT THAT YOU CAN STILL WORK WITH EQUIPMENT FROM DECADES AGO...
...IS ONE OF THE THINGS I LIKE MOST ABOUT RADIO.

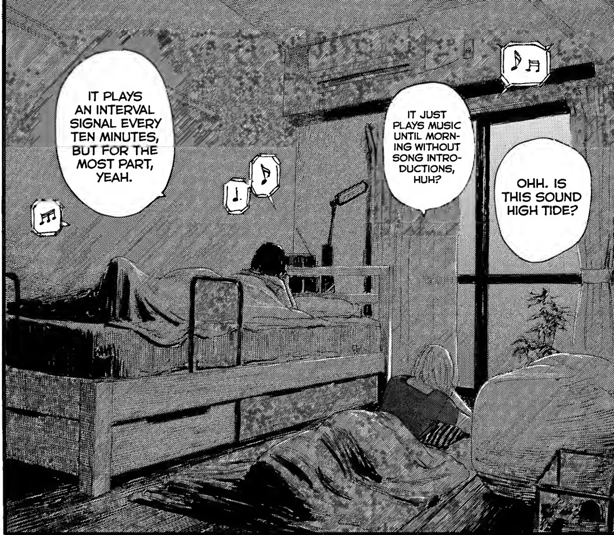

PFF! AH-HA-HA!
HUH?! WHAT'S UP?
OH, NOTHING...
I JUST REMEMBERED ALL OF A SUDDEN.
WHAT?
Are you drunk already?
WHAT MATO-SAN SAID TO YOU THE FIRST TIME YOU CAME TO MRS.
RADIO HAS THIS THING WE CALL THE "THREE SECOND RULE."
THREE SECONDS OF DEAD AIR MEANS A BROADCAST INCIDENT, EIGHT SECONDS AND IT'S MY HEAD ON A PLATTER.
IF YOU WANNA STOP THE RECORDING, THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO FILL THE SPACE.
HE WAS EXAGGERATING QUITE A BIT.
Don't get me wrong, dead air is bad.
HUH?! SERIOUSLY?
EVEN IF THE BROADCAST STOPPED FOR EIGHT SECONDS...
...IT WOULD PROBABLY ONLY END UP WITH AN EVALUATION SESSION.


EVALUATION SESSION?!
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
Are you students?!
RADIO SURE IS LAX!
ANOTHER GOOD THING ABOUT RADIO IS THAT THE LISTENERS ARE GENERALLY UNDERSTANDING.
DAYAN
EVEN IF A SPEAKER SCREWS UP BIG TIME, WE RARELY GET COMPLAINTS.
Actually, we get letters of encouragement.
YOUR FANS TOTALLY SPOIL YOU!
And you're too frank!
NO WONDER YOU'RE ALL SO NUMB TO DANGER THAT YOU LET A TOTAL AMATEUR RANT ON THE AIR.
BUT THAT WAS AWESOME!
THE RESPONSE WAS GOOD, TOO.
IT'S NOT OKAY!
ALL RIGHT! I'VE DECIDED!
IN ORDER TO MAKE YOU GUYS AMEND YOUR COMPLETE LACK OF SENSE, I'LL GET THE MOST COMPLAINTS IN THE HISTORY OF MRS!
AH-HA-HA-HA!
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!
She just keeps going...
I DIDN'T EVEN SAY ANYTHING THAT FUNNY...

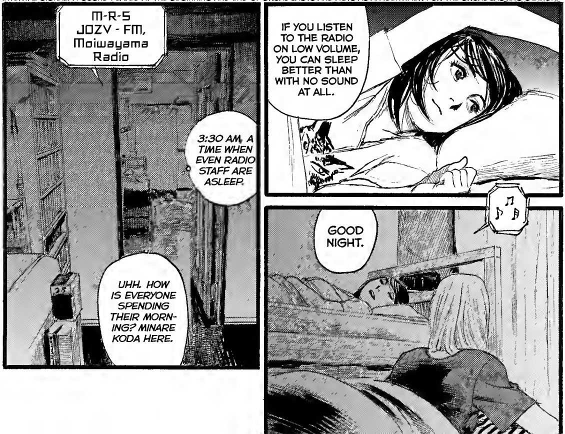

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
...YOU HAVE WORK TOMORROW, HUH? SORRY.
I'M JUST A JOBLESS BUM WHO DRINKS EVERY DAY.
DON'T BE. I HAD FUN TONIGHT.
I WANTED THE CHANCE TO SPEAK WITH YOU, TOO.
ME? WHY?
YOU LEFT SUCH A FIERCE IMPRESSION THAT DAY.
I THOUGHT, "SHE CAN PUT INTO WORDS WHAT I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT IN THE BACK OF MY HEAD."
Was I your Blue Hearts?*
"EVEN IF YOU RUN TO THE EDGE OF THE PLANET, I WILL HUNT YOU DOWN AND KILL YOU!" I WANT TO DO THAT SOMEDAY.
YOU MEAN "WANT TO SAY", RIGHT?
OH, YEAH. SORRY.

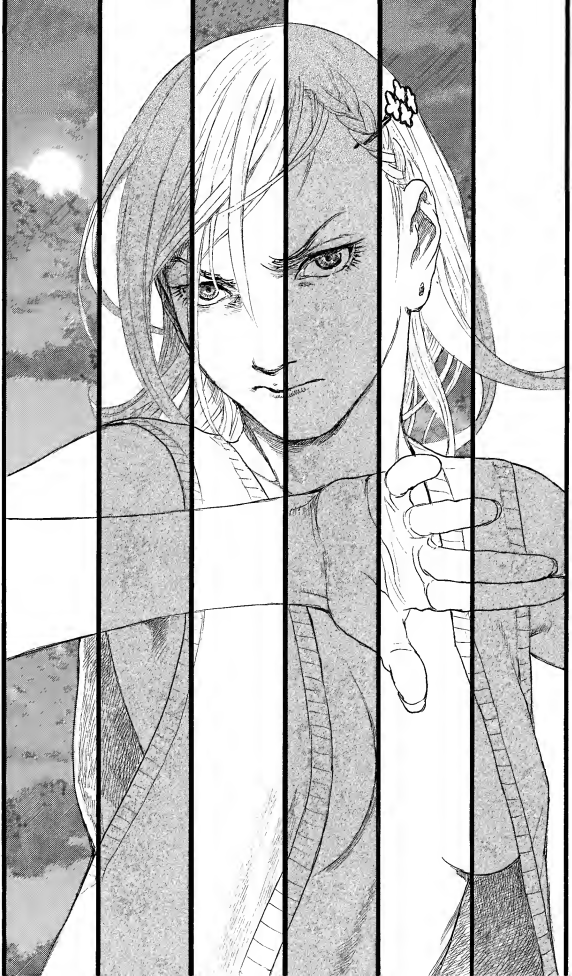
* BLUE HEARTS, A PUNK BAND ACTIVE IN THE LATE EIGHTIES AND EARLY NINETIES.


BUT TO BE HONEST, I'VE NEVER HAD A BOYFRIEND,
SO THERE ARE PROBABLY PARTS OF YOUR STORY I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND.
EHH, THAT'S FINE.
MEN ARE ON THE SAME LEVEL AS GARBAGE.
Though I'm pretty much garbage, too.
THERE'S NO NEED TO FORCE YOURSELF TO GET A BOYFRIEND. STAY A VIRGIN FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE, MIZUHO-CHAN!
I'D RATHER NOT...
I THINK AN OLD CLASSMATE TOLD ME THE SAME THING BEFORE.
OH! THAT'S RIGHT!
WE SHOULD TUNE IN!
?
M-R-S J-O-V FM-

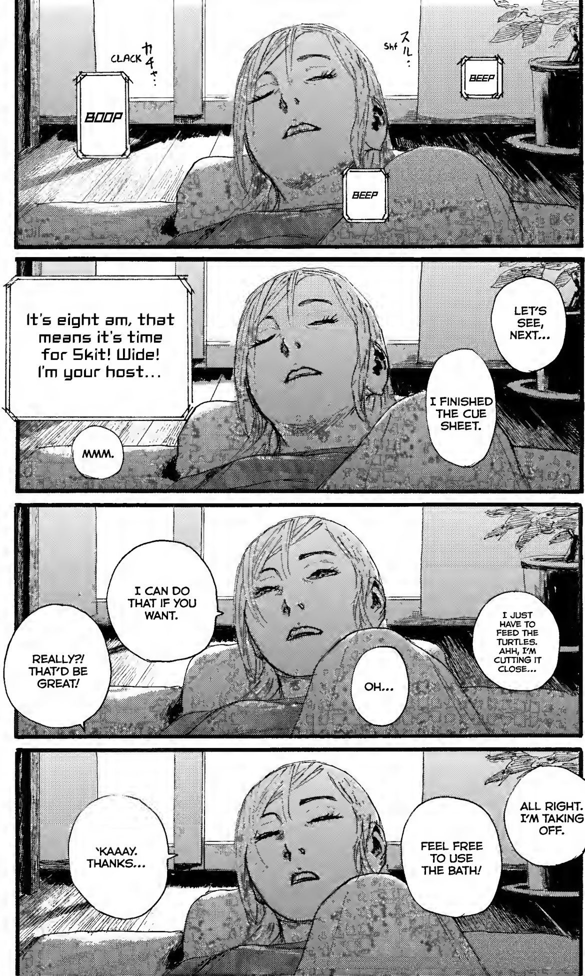

OHH. IS THIS SOUND HIGH TIDE?
IT JUST PLAYS MUSIC UNTIL MORNING WITHOUT SONG INTRODUCTIONS, HUH?
IT PLAYS AN INTERVAL SIGNAL EVERY TEN MINUTES, BUT FOR THE MOST PART, YEAH.

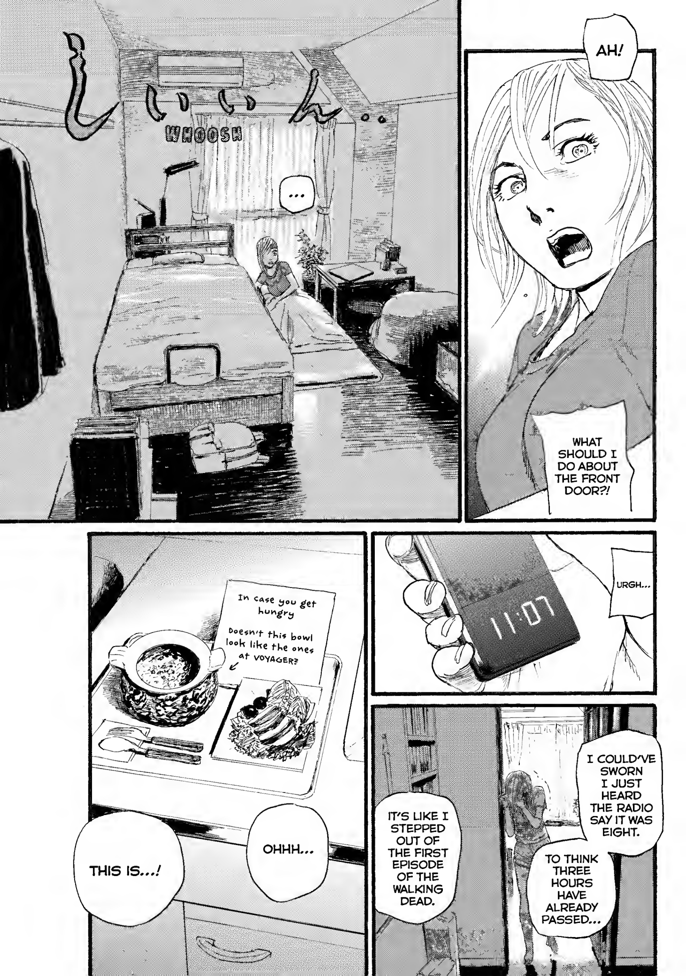
INTERVAL SIGNAL: A SOUND PLAYED AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF BROADCASTS AND ACTS AS AN IDENTIFIER FOR THE BROADCASTING STATION.

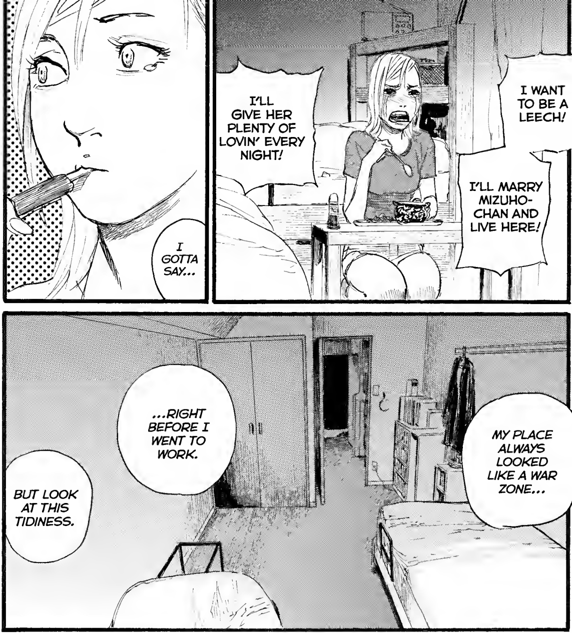

IF YOU LISTEN TO THE RADIO ON LOW VOLUME, YOU CAN SLEEP BETTER THAN WITH NO SOUND AT ALL.
GOOD NIGHT.
M-R-5 JOZV - FM, Moiwayama Radio
3:30 AM. A TIME WHEN EVEN RADIO STAFF ARE ASLEEP.
UHH. HOW IS EVERYONE SPENDING THEIR MORNING? MINARE KODA HERE.

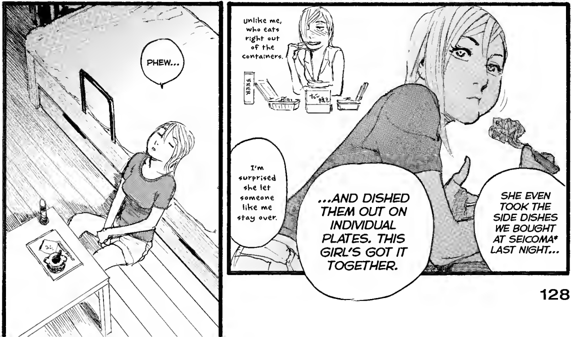


Chapter 6 「I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.」

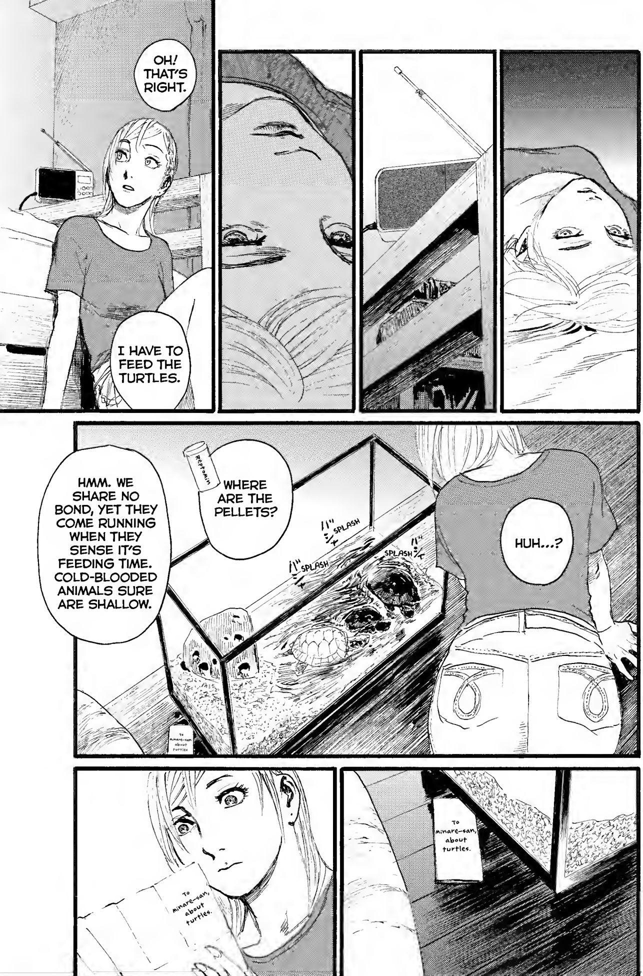

Shf スル…
BEEP
BEEP
CLACK カチャ…
BOOP
LET'S SEE, NEXT...
I FINISHED THE CUE SHEET.
It's eight am, that means it's time for Skit! Wide! I'm your host...
MMM.
I JUST HAVE TO FEED THE TURTLES. AHH, I'M CUTTING IT CLOSE...
OH...
I CAN DO THAT IF YOU WANT.
REALLY?! THAT'D BE GREAT!
ALL RIGHT. I'M TAKING OFF.
FEEL FREE TO USE THE BATH!
'KAAAY. THANKS...

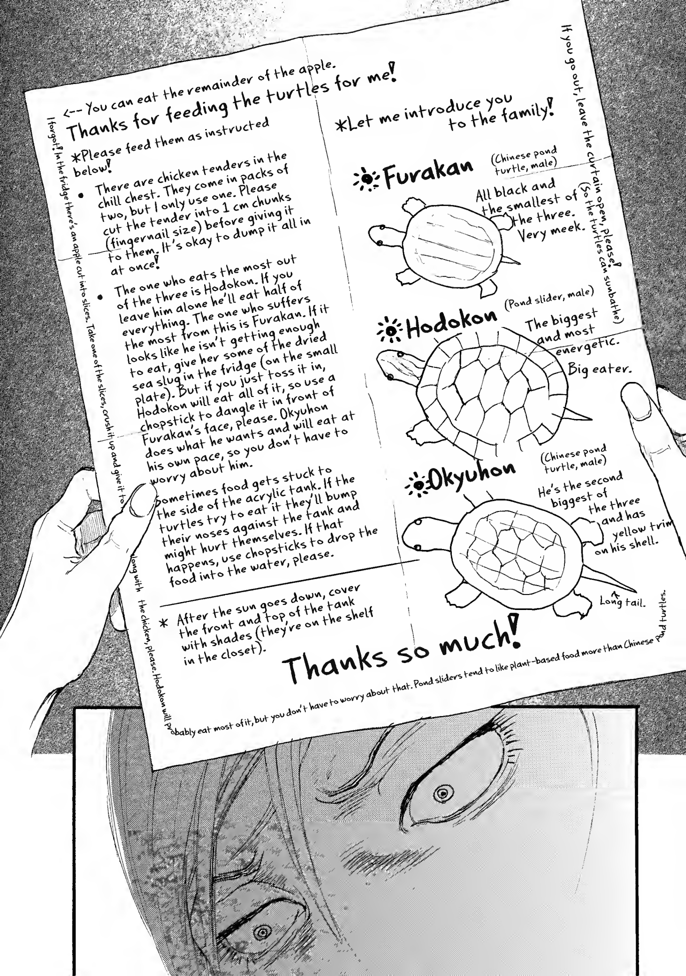

AH!
WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT THE FRONT DOOR?!
しいいん..
WHOOSH
...
URGH...
11:07
I COULD'VE SWORN I JUST HEARD THE RADIO SAY IT WAS EIGHT.
TO THINK THREE HOURS HAVE ALREADY PASSED...
IT'S LIKE I STEPPED OUT OF THE FIRST EPISODE OF THE WALKING DEAD.
In case you get hungry
Doesn't this bowl look like the ones at VOYAGER?
OHHH...
THIS IS...!


I WANT TO BE A LEECH!
I'LL MARRY MIZUHO-CHAN AND LIVE HERE!
I'LL GIVE HER PLENTY OF LOVIN' EVERY NIGHT!
I GOTTA SAY...
MY PLACE ALWAYS LOOKED LIKE A WAR ZONE...
...RIGHT BEFORE I WENT TO WORK.
BUT LOOK AT THIS TIDINESS.


SHE EVEN TOOK THE SIDE DISHES WE BOUGHT AT SEICOMA* LAST NIGHT...
...AND DISHED THEM OUT ON INDIVIDUAL PLATES. THIS GIRL'S GOT IT TOGETHER.
unlike me, who eats right out of the containers.
BEER
I'm surprised she let someone like me stay over.
PHEW...

* SEICOMA: SEICO MART. A CONVENIENCE STORE CHAIN IN SAPPORO.


OH! THAT'S RIGHT.
I HAVE TO FEED THE TURTLES.
HUH...?
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
Reptomin
WHERE ARE THE PELLETS?
HMM. WE SHARE NO BOND, YET THEY COME RUNNING WHEN THEY SENSE IT'S FEEDING TIME. COLD-BLOODED ANIMALS SURE ARE SHALLOW.
To minare-san about turtles
To minare-san, about turtles.
To minare-san, about turtles.



<-- You can eat the remainder of the apple.

Thanks for feeding the turtles for me!

Thanks for feeding the turtles for me!

*Please feed them as instructed below!

- There are chicken tenders in the chill chest. They come in packs of two, but I only use one. Please cut the tender into 1 cm chunks (fingernail size) before giving it to them. It's okay to dump it all in at once!
- The one who eats the most out of the three is Hodokon. If you leave him alone he'll eat half of everything. The one who suffers the most from this is Furakan. If it looks like he isn't getting enough to eat, give her some of the dried sea slug in the fridge (on the small plate). But if you just toss it in, Hodokon will eat all of it, so use a chopstick to dangle it in front of Furakan's face, please. Okyuhon does what he wants and will eat at his own pace, so you don't have to worry about him.

Sometimes food gets stuck to the side of the acrylic tank. If the turtles try to eat it they'll bump their noses against the tank and might hurt themselves. If that happens, use chopsticks to drop the food into the water, please.

* After the sun goes down, cover the front and top of the tank with shades (they're on the shelf in the closet).

*Let me introduce you to the family!

Furakan (Chinese pond turtle, male)

All black and the smallest of the three. Very meek.

Hodokon (Pond slider, male)

The biggest and most energetic. Big eater.

Okyuhon (Chinese pond turtle, male)

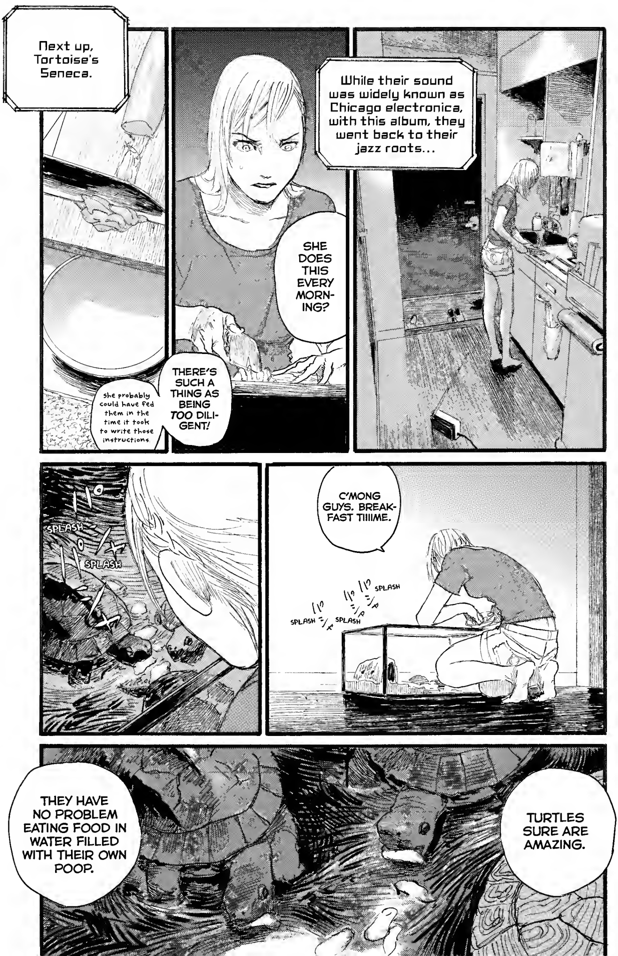
He's the second biggest of the three and has yellow trim on his shell.

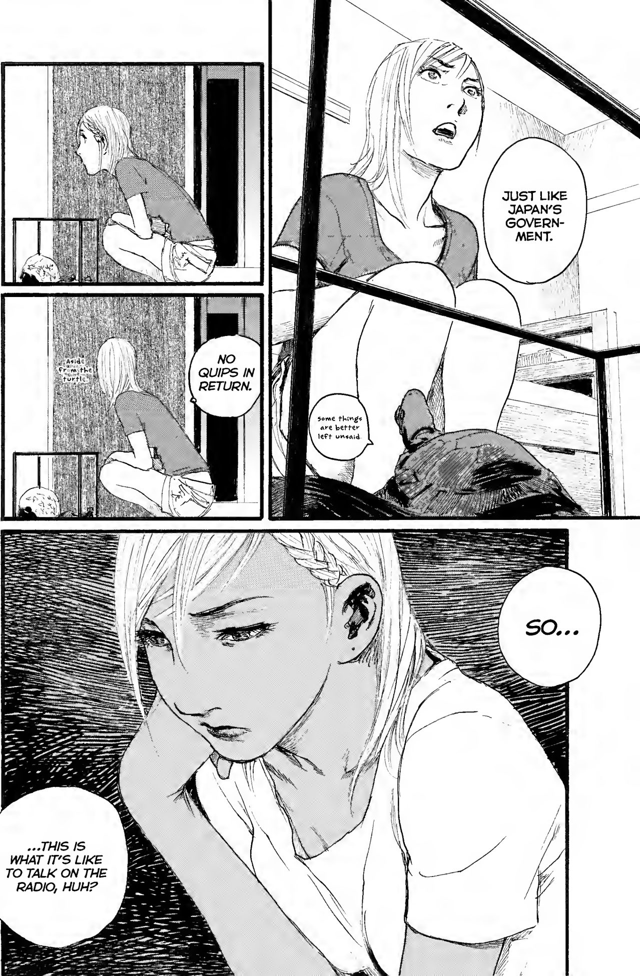
Long tail.

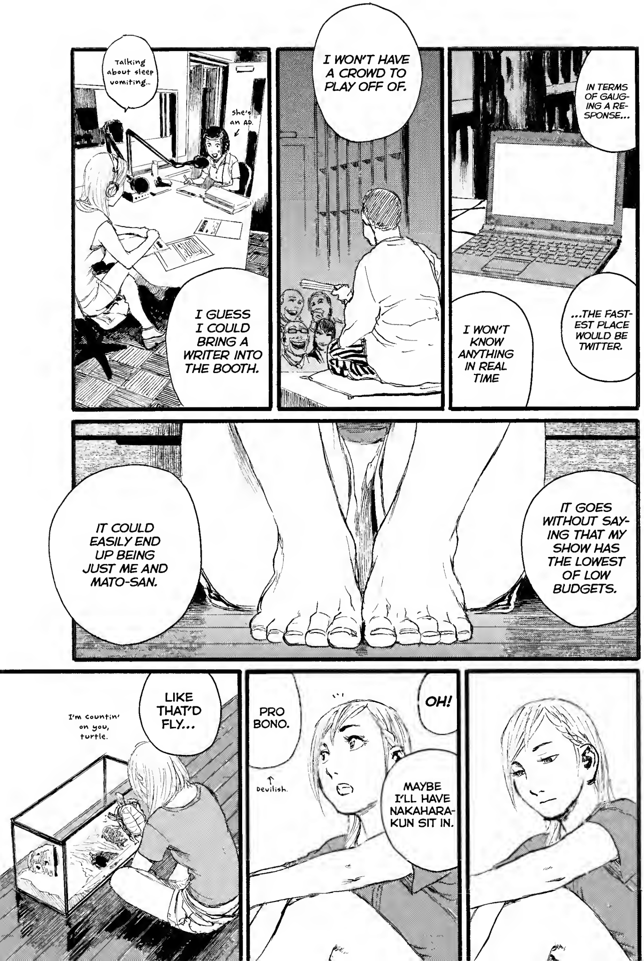
Thanks so much!

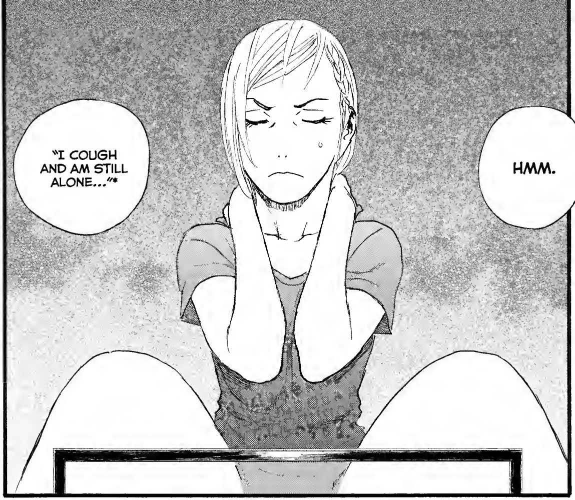
I forgot! In the fridge there's an apple cut into slices. Take one of the slices, crush it up and give it to long with the chicken, please. Hodokon will probably eat most of it, but you don't have to worry about that. Pond sliders tend to like plant-based food more than Chinese pond turtles.

If you go out, leave the curtain open, please! (So the turtles can sunbathe)

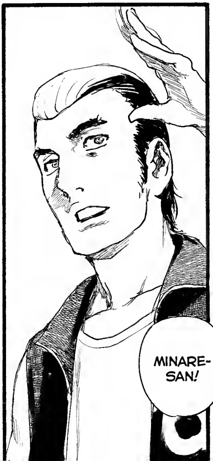

While their sound was widely known as Chicago electronica, with this album, they went back to their jazz roots...
SHE DOES THIS EVERY MORNING?
THERE'S SUCH A THING AS BEING *TOO* DILIGENT!
she probably could have fed them in the time it took to write those instructions.
Next up, Tortoise's Seneca.
C'MONG GUYS. BREAKFAST TIIIIME.
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
TURTLES SURE ARE AMAZING.
THEY HAVE NO PROBLEM EATING FOOD IN WATER FILLED WITH THEIR OWN POOP.

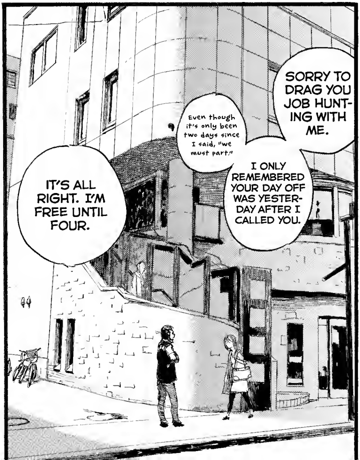

JUST LIKE JAPAN'S GOVERNMENT.
some things are better left unsaid.
NO QUIPS IN RETURN.
Aside from the turtle.
SO...
...THIS IS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO TALK ON THE RADIO, HUH?

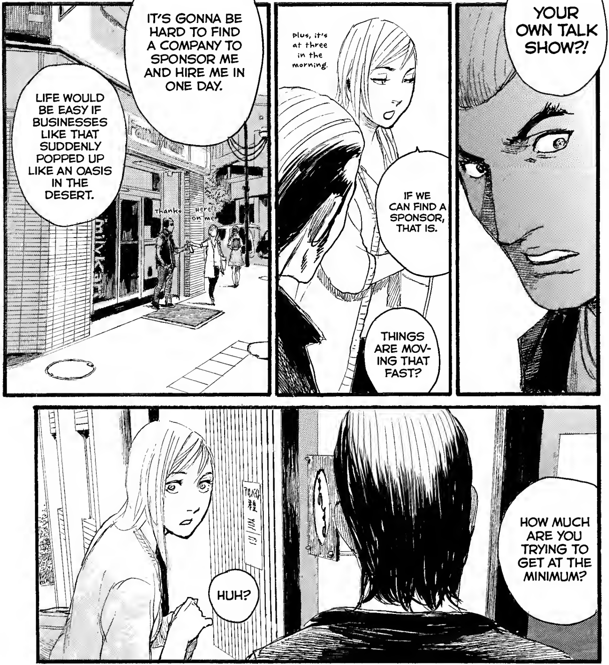

IN TERMS OF GAUGING A RESPONSE...
...THE FASTEST PLACE WOULD BE TWITTER.
I WON'T KNOW ANYTHING IN REAL TIME
I WON'T HAVE A CROWD TO PLAY OFF OF.
Talking about sleep vomiting...
She's an AD.
I GUESS I COULD BRING A WRITER INTO THE BOOTH.
IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT MY SHOW HAS THE LOWEST OF LOW BUDGETS.
IT COULD EASILY END UP BEING JUST ME AND MATO-SAN.
OH!
MAYBE I'LL HAVE NAKAHARA-KUN SIT IN.
PRO BONO.
Devilish.
LIKE THAT'D FLY...
I'm countin' on you, turtle.


HMM.
"I COUGH AND AM STILL ALONE..."*

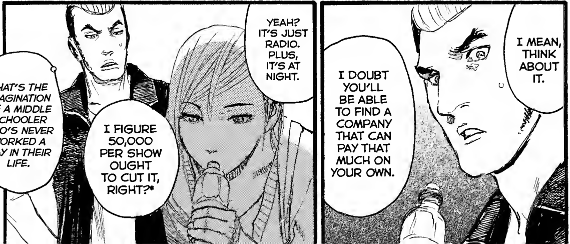
* REFERENCE TO A HOSAI OZAKI HAIKU.

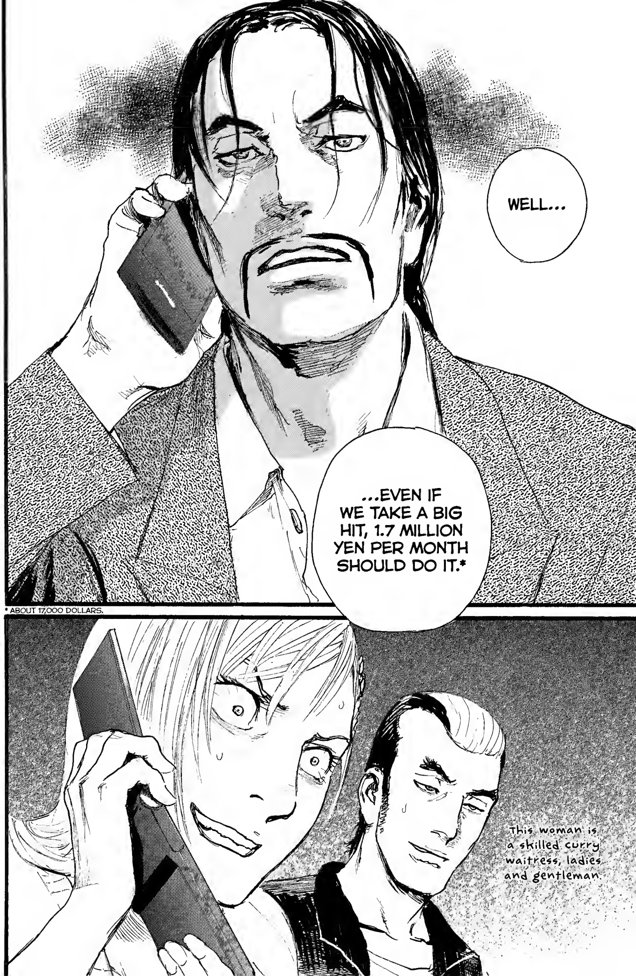



SORRY TO DRAG YOU JOB HUNTING WITH ME.
Even though it's only been two days since I said, "we must part."
I ONLY REMEMBERED YOUR DAY OFF WAS YESTERDAY AFTER I CALLED YOU.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'M FREE UNTIL FOUR.

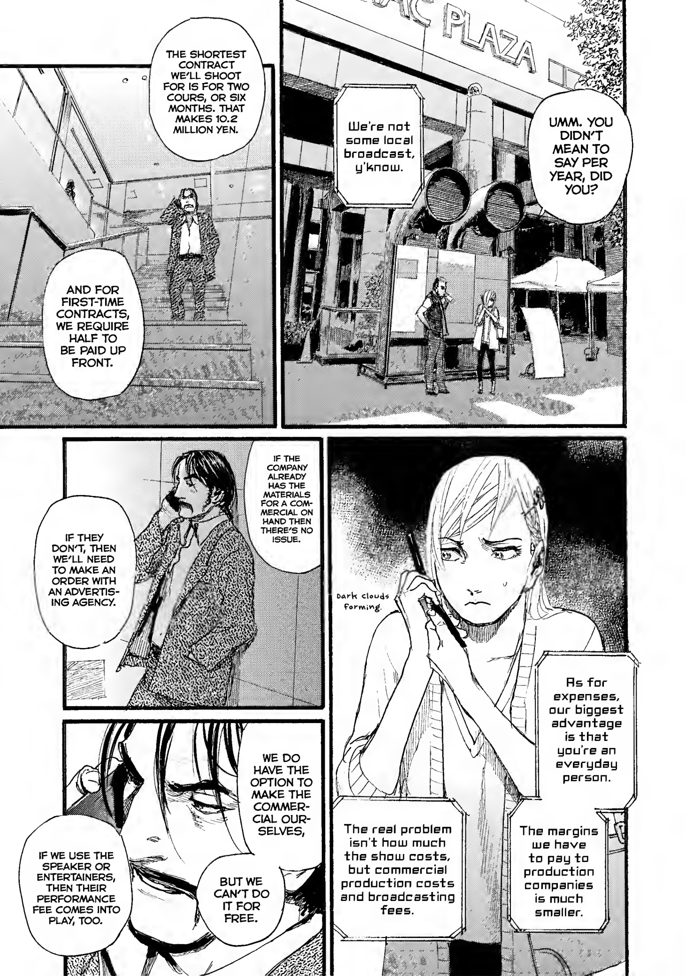

YOUR OWN TALK SHOW?!
THINGS ARE MOVING THAT FAST?
IF WE CAN FIND A SPONSOR, THAT IS.
Plus, it's at three in the morning.
IT'S GONNA BE HARD TO FIND A COMPANY TO SPONSOR ME AND HIRE ME IN ONE DAY.
LIFE WOULD BE EASY IF BUSINESSES LIKE THAT SUDDENLY POPPED UP LIKE AN OASIS IN THE DESERT.
Here, on me.
Thanks
HOW MUCH ARE YOU TRYING TO GET AT THE MINIMUM?
HUH?

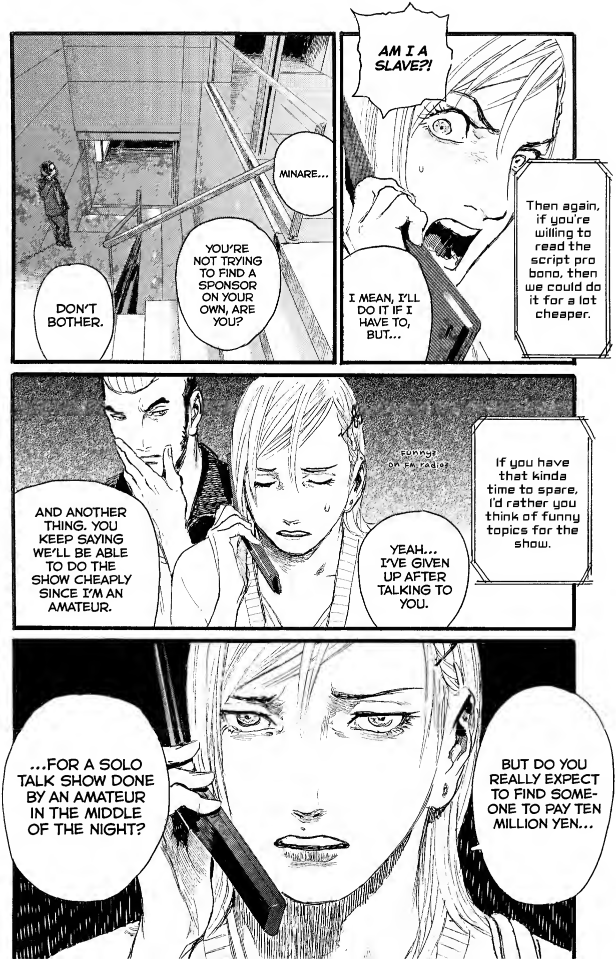
* ABOUT 500 DOLLARS.

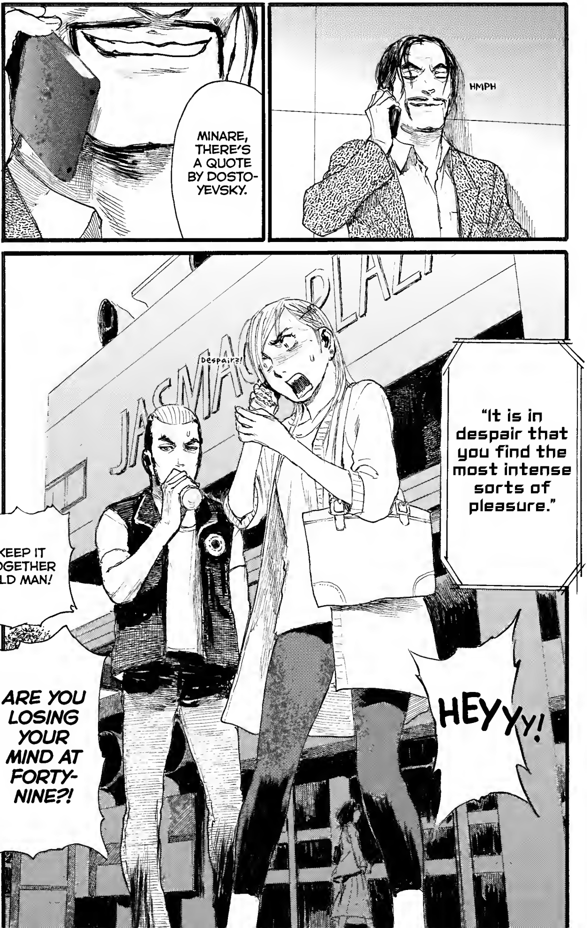

I MEAN, THINK ABOUT IT.
I DOUBT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FIND A COMPANY THAT CAN PAY THAT MUCH ON YOUR OWN.
YEAH? IT'S JUST RADIO. PLUS, IT'S AT NIGHT.
I FIGURE 50,000 PER SHOW OUGHT TO CUT IT, RIGHT?*
THAT'S THE IMAGINATION OF A MIDDLE SCHOOLER WHO'S NEVER WORKED A DAY IN THEIR LIFE.

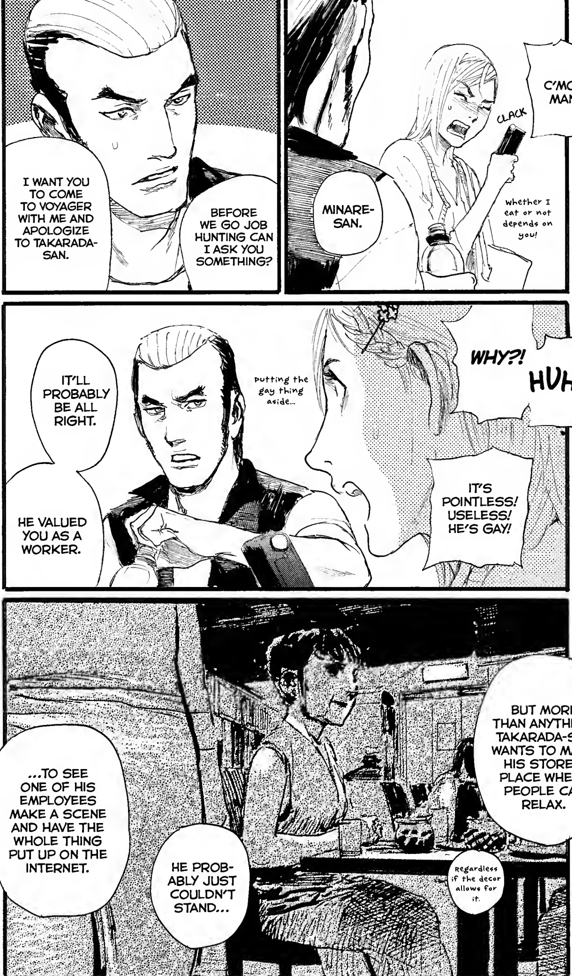

WELL...
...EVEN IF WE TAKE A BIG HIT, 1.7 MILLION YEN PER MONTH SHOULD DO IT.*
This woman is a skilled curry waitress, ladies and gentleman.

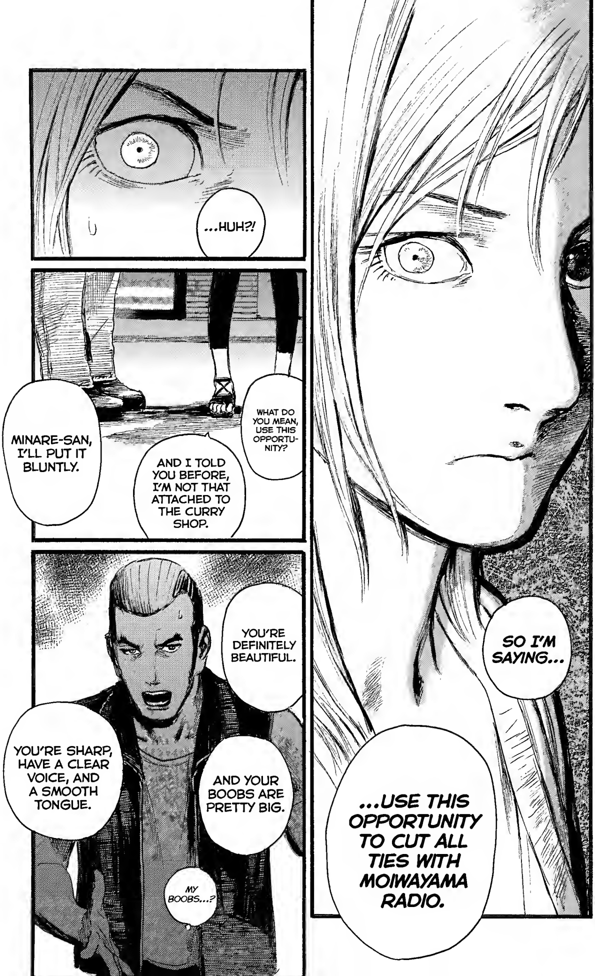
* ABOUT 17,000 DOLLARS.

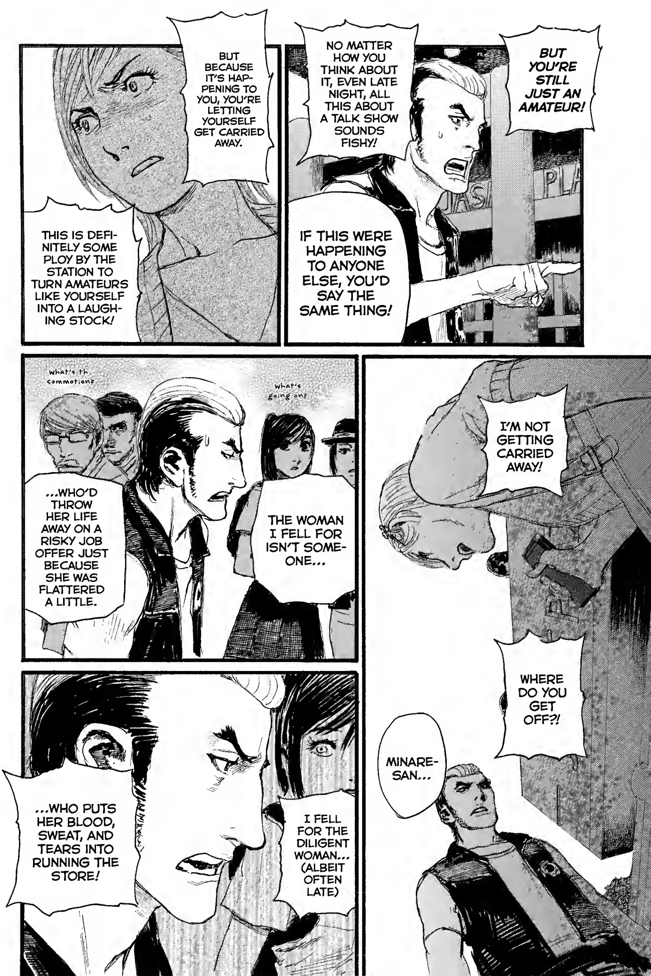

AC PLAZA
UMM. YOU DIDN'T MEAN TO SAY PER YEAR, DID YOU?
We're not some local broadcast, y'know.
THE SHORTEST CONTRACT WE'LL SHOOT FOR IS FOR TWO COURS, OR SIX MONTHS. THAT MAKES 10.2 MILLION YEN.
AND FOR FIRST-TIME CONTRACTS, WE REQUIRE HALF TO BE PAID UP FRONT.
IF THE COMPANY ALREADY HAS THE MATERIALS FOR A COMMERCIAL ON HAND THEN THERE'S NO ISSUE.
IF THEY DON'T, THEN WE'LL NEED TO MAKE AN ORDER WITH AN ADVERTISING AGENCY.
Dark clouds forming.
WE DO HAVE THE OPTION TO MAKE THE COMMERCIAL OURSELVES,
BUT WE CAN'T DO IT FOR FREE.
IF WE USE THE SPEAKER OR ENTERTAINERS, THEN THEIR PERFORMANCE FEE COMES INTO PLAY, TOO.
As for expenses, our biggest advantage is that you're an everyday person.
The margins we have to pay to production companies is much smaller.
The real problem isn't how much the show costs, but commercial production costs and broadcasting fees.

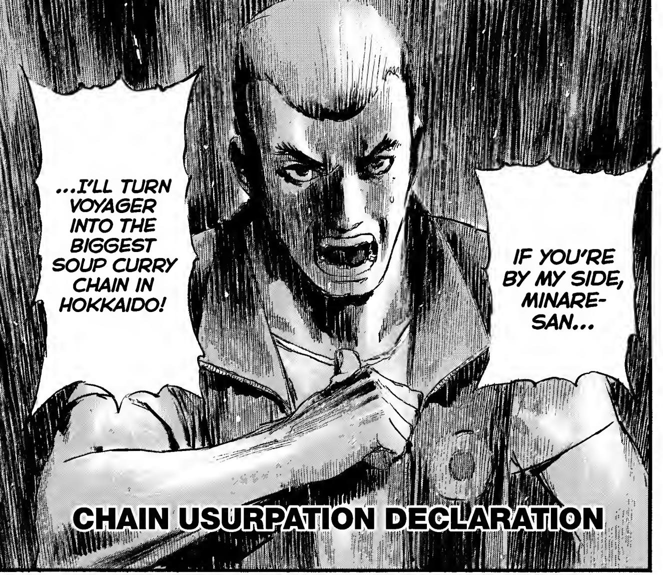

Then again, if you're willing to read the script pro bono, then we could do it for a lot cheaper.
I MEAN, I'LL DO IT IF I HAVE TO, BUT...
AM I A SLAVE?!
MINARE...
YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO FIND A SPONSOR ON YOUR OWN, ARE YOU?
DON'T BOTHER.
If you have that kinda time to spare, I'd rather you think of funny topics for the show.
YEAH... I'VE GIVEN UP AFTER TALKING TO YOU.
Funny? On FM radio?
AND ANOTHER THING. YOU KEEP SAYING WE'LL BE ABLE TO DO THE SHOW CHEAPLY SINCE I'M AN AMATEUR.
BUT DO YOU REALLY EXPECT TO FIND SOME-ONE TO PAY TEN MILLION YEN...
...FOR A SOLO TALK SHOW DONE BY AN AMATEUR IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?

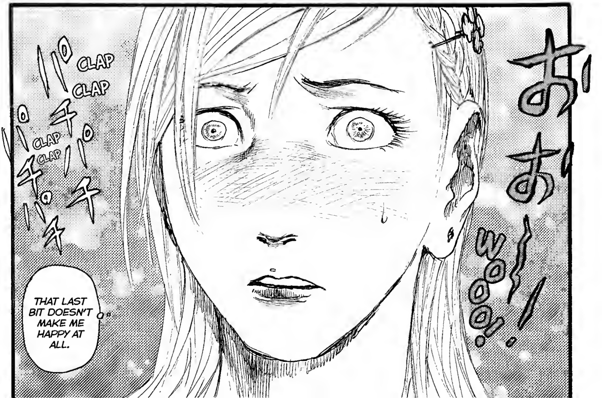

HMPH
MINARE, THERE'S A QUOTE BY DOSTOYEVSKY.
"It is in despair that you find the most intense sorts of pleasure."
Despair?!
HEYYYY!
KEEP IT TOGETHER OLD MAN!
ARE YOU LOSING YOUR MIND AT FORTY-NINE?!

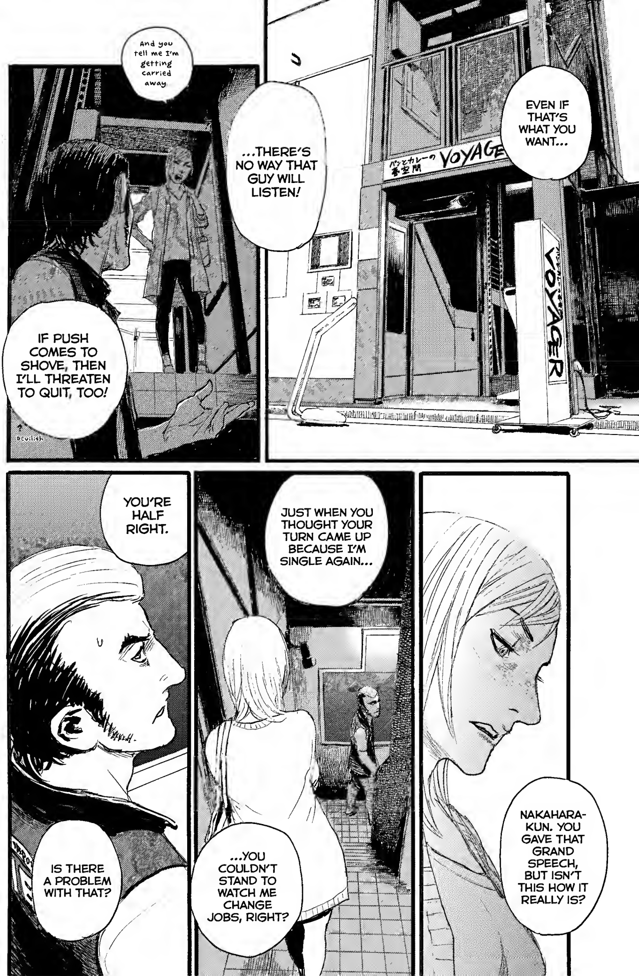

C'MON, MAN!
CLACK
Whether I eat or not depends on you!
MINARE-SAN.
BEFORE WE GO JOB HUNTING CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
I WANT YOU TO COME TO VOYAGER WITH ME AND APOLOGIZE TO TAKARADA-SAN.
HUH?!
WHY?!
IT'S POINTLESS! USELESS! HE'S GAY!
putting the gay thing aside...
IT'LL PROBABLY BE ALL RIGHT.
HE VALUED YOU AS A WORKER.
BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING, TAKARADA-SAN WANTS TO MAKE HIS STORE A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CAN RELAX.
Regardless if the decor allows for it.
HE PROBABLY JUST COULDN'T STAND...
...TO SEE ONE OF HIS EMPLOYEES MAKE A SCENE AND HAVE THE WHOLE THING PUT UP ON THE INTERNET.

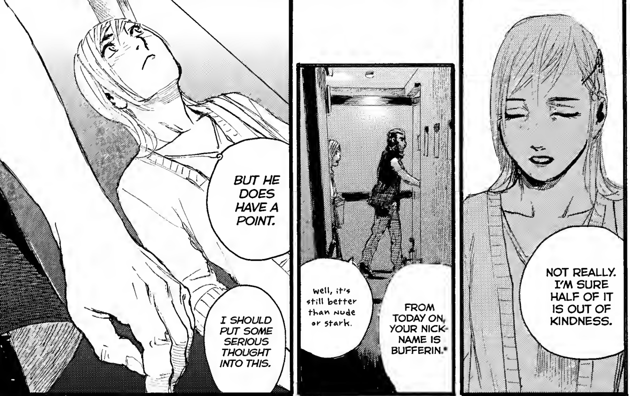

SO I'M SAYING...
...USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CUT ALL TIES WITH MOIWAYAMA RADIO.
...HUH?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, USE THIS OPPORTUNITY?
AND I TOLD YOU BEFORE, I'M NOT THAT ATTACHED TO THE CURRY SHOP.
MINARE-SAN, I'LL PUT IT BLUNTLY.
YOU'RE DEFINITELY BEAUTIFUL.
YOU'RE SHARP, HAVE A CLEAR VOICE, AND A SMOOTH TONGUE.
AND YOUR BOOBS ARE PRETTY BIG.
MY BOOBS...?


BUT YOU'RE STILL JUST AN AMATEUR!
NO MATTER HOW YOU THINK ABOUT IT, EVEN LATE NIGHT, ALL THIS ABOUT A TALK SHOW SOUNDS FISHY!
IF THIS WERE HAPPENING TO ANYONE ELSE, YOU'D SAY THE SAME THING!
BUT BECAUSE IT'S HAPPENING TO YOU, YOU'RE LETTING YOURSELF GET CARRIED AWAY.
THIS IS DEFINITELY SOME PLOY BY THE STATION TO TURN AMATEURS LIKE YOURSELF INTO A LAUGHING STOCK!
I'M NOT GETTING CARRIED AWAY!
WHERE DO YOU GET OFF?!
MINARE-SAN...
what's going on?
what's th commotion?
THE WOMAN I FELL FOR ISN'T SOMEONE...
...WHO'D THROW HER LIFE AWAY ON A RISKY JOB OFFER JUST BECAUSE SHE WAS FLATTERED A LITTLE.
I FELL FOR THE DILIGENT WOMAN... (ALBEIT OFTEN LATE)
...WHO PUTS HER BLOOD, SWEAT, AND TEARS INTO RUNNING THE STORE!

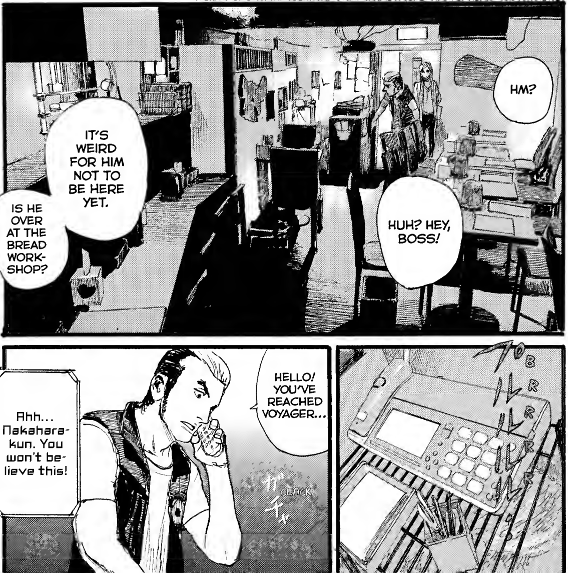

IF YOU'RE BY MY SIDE, MINARE-SAN...
...I'LL TURN VOYAGER INTO THE BIGGEST SOUP CURRY CHAIN IN HOKKAIDO!
CHAIN USURPATION DECLARATION

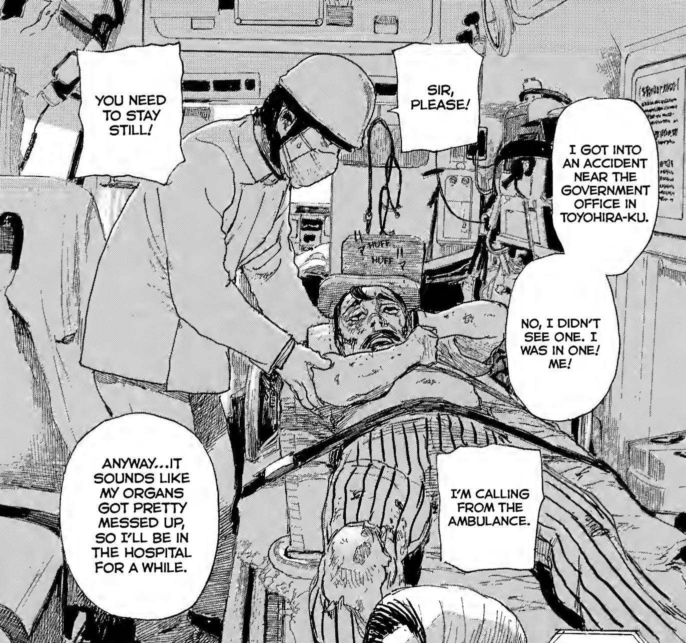

おおーっ!!
WOOO!!
パチパチ
CLAP CLAP
パチパチ
CLAP CLAP
パチパチ
THAT LAST BIT DOESN'T MAKE ME HAPPY AT ALL.

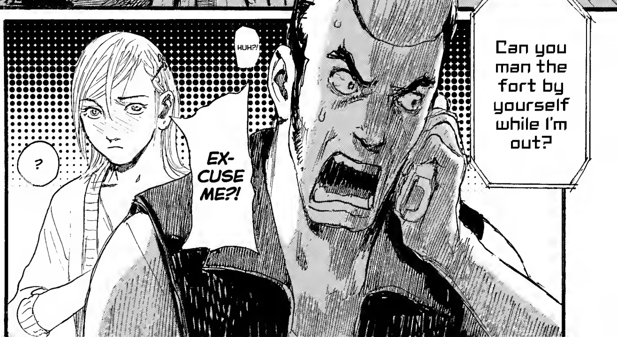

EVEN IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT...
パンとカレーの 香空間 VOYAGER
VOYAGER
...THERE'S NO WAY THAT GUY WILL LISTEN!
And you tell me I'm getting carried away
IF PUSH COMES TO SHOVE, THEN I'LL THREATEN TO QUIT, TOO!
↑ Devilish
NAKAHARA-KUN. YOU GAVE THAT GRAND SPEECH, BUT ISN'T THIS HOW IT REALLY IS?
JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT YOUR TURN CAME UP BECAUSE I'M SINGLE AGAIN...
...YOU COULDN'T STAND TO WATCH ME CHANGE JOBS, RIGHT?
YOU'RE HALF RIGHT.
IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?


NOT REALLY. I'M SURE HALF OF IT IS OUT OF KINDNESS.
FROM TODAY ON, YOUR NICKNAME IS BUFFERIN.*
Well, it's still better than nude or stark.
BUT HE DOES HAVE A POINT.
I SHOULD PUT SOME SERIOUS THOUGHT INTO THIS.

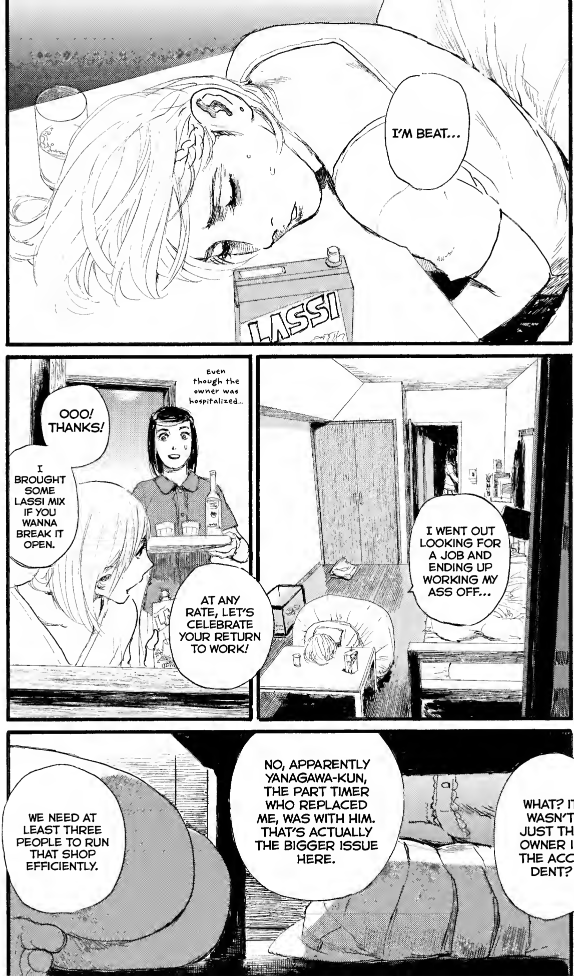
* A BRAND OF OVER THE COUNTER MEDICINE THAT IS A COMBINATION OF ASPIRIN AND AN ANTACID.

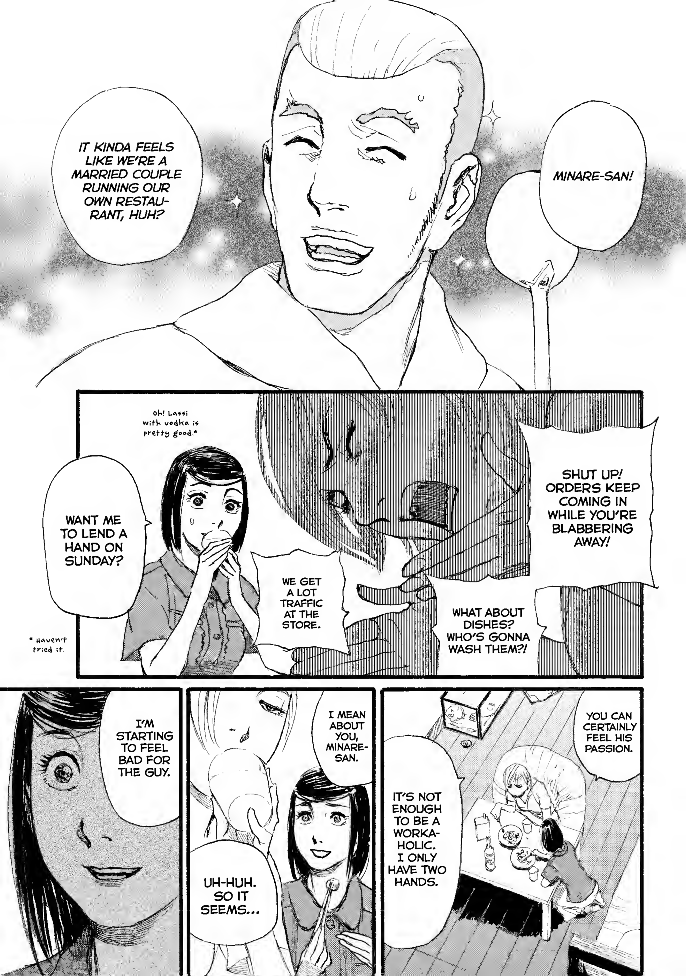

HM?
HUH? HEY, BOSS!
IT'S WEIRD FOR HIM NOT TO BE HERE YET.
IS HE OVER AT THE BREAD WORKSHOP?
BRRRR
CLACK
HELLO! YOU'VE REACHED VOYAGER...
Ahh... Nakahara-kun. You won't believe this!

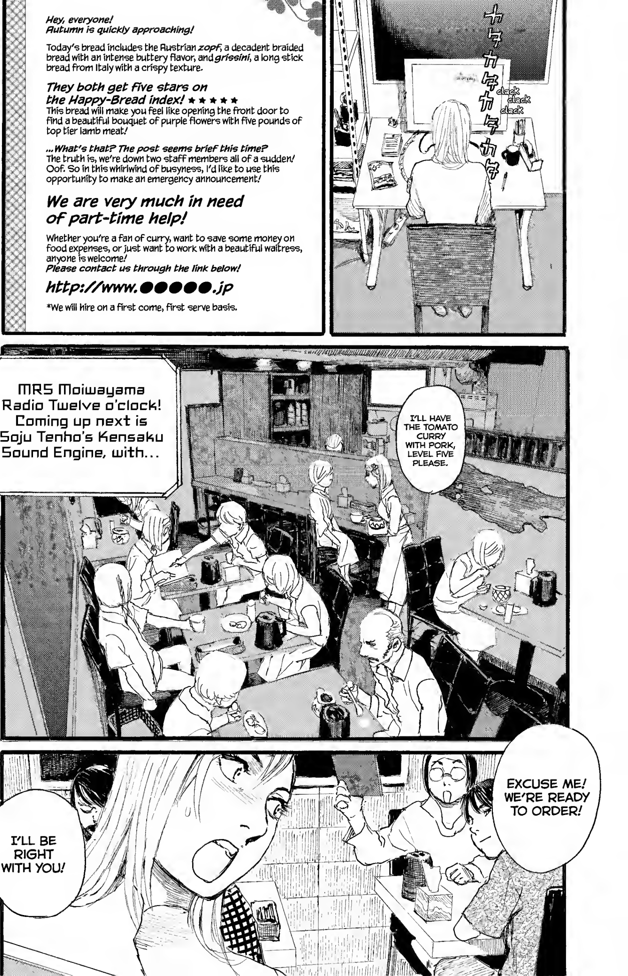

I GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT NEAR THE GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN TOYOHIRA-KU.
SIR, PLEASE!
YOU NEED TO STAY STILL!
HUFF HUFF
NO, I DIDN'T SEE ONE. I WAS IN ONE! ME!
I'M CALLING FROM THE AMBULANCE.
ANYWAY...IT SOUNDS LIKE MY ORGANS GOT PRETTY MESSED UP, SO I'LL BE IN THE HOSPITAL FOR A WHILE.


Can you man the fort by yourself while I'm out?
HUH?!
EXCUSE ME?!
?

Chapter 7 「YOU WON'T GO HOME.」


I'M BEAT...
LASSI
I WENT OUT LOOKING FOR A JOB AND ENDING UP WORKING MY ASS OFF...
Even though the owner was hospitalized...
OOO! THANKS!
I BROUGHT SOME LASSI MIX IF YOU WANNA BREAK IT OPEN.
AT ANY RATE, LET'S CELEBRATE YOUR RETURN TO WORK!
WHAT? IT WASN'T JUST THE OWNER IN THE ACCIDENT?
NO, APPARENTLY YANAGAWA-KUN, THE PART TIMER WHO REPLACED ME, WAS WITH HIM. THAT'S ACTUALLY THE BIGGER ISSUE HERE.
WE NEED AT LEAST THREE PEOPLE TO RUN THAT SHOP EFFICIENTLY.


MINARE-SAN!
IT KINDA FEELS LIKE WE'RE A MARRIED COUPLE RUNNING OUR OWN RESTAURANT, HUH?
SHUT UP! ORDERS KEEP COMING IN WHILE YOU'RE BLABBERING AWAY!
WHAT ABOUT DISHES? WHO'S GONNA WASH THEM?!
WE GET A LOT TRAFFIC AT THE STORE.
Oh! Lassi with vodka is pretty good.*
WANT ME TO LEND A HAND ON SUNDAY?
* Haven't tried it.
YOU CAN CERTAINLY FEEL HIS PASSION.
I MEAN ABOUT YOU, MINARE-SAN.
IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO BE A WORKAHOLIC. I ONLY HAVE TWO HANDS.
UH-HUH. SO IT SEEMS...
I'M STARTING TO FEEL BAD FOR THE GUY.



Hey, everyone!
Autumn is quickly approaching!

Today's bread includes the Austrian *zopf*, a decadent braided bread with an intense buttery flavor, and *grissini*, a long stick bread from Italy with a crispy texture.

They both get five stars on the Happy-Bread index! ★★★★★
This bread will make you feel like opening the front door to find a beautiful bouquet of purple flowers with five pounds of top tier lamb meat!

...What's that? The post seems brief this time?
The truth is, we're down two staff members all of a sudden! Oof. So in this whirlwind of busyness, I'd like to use this opportunity to make an emergency announcement!

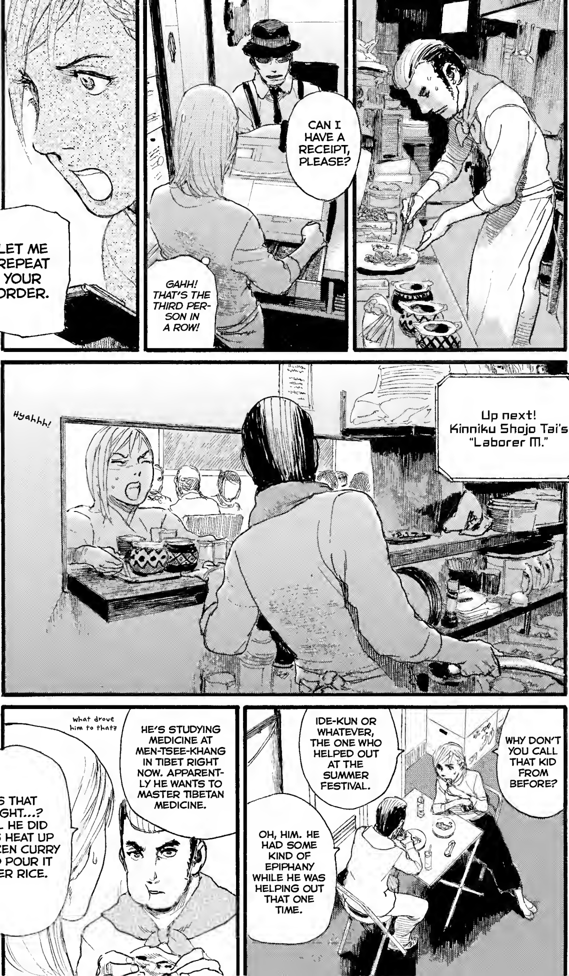
We are very much in need of part-time help!

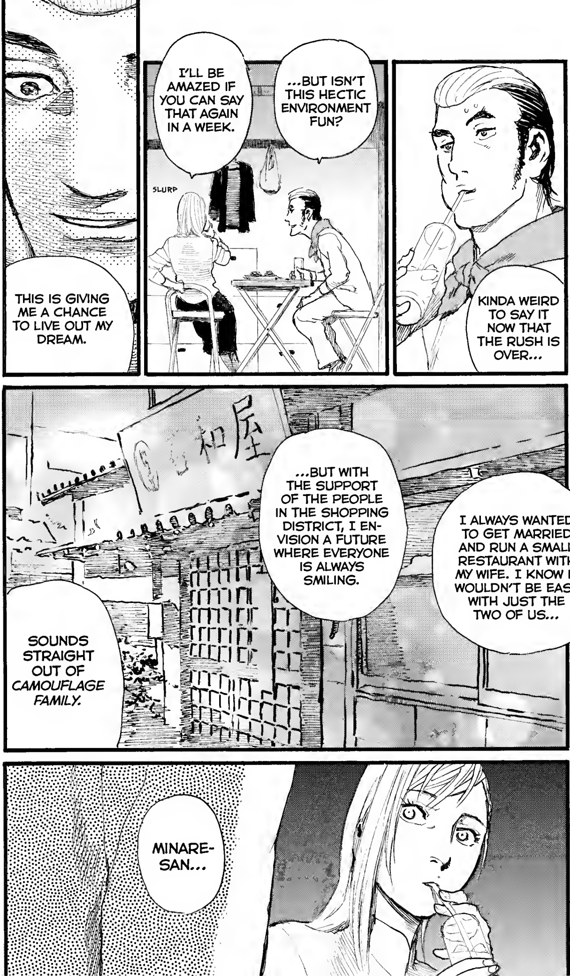
Whether you're a fan of curry, want to save some money on food expenses, or just want to work with a beautiful waitress, anyone is welcome!
Please contact us through the link below!

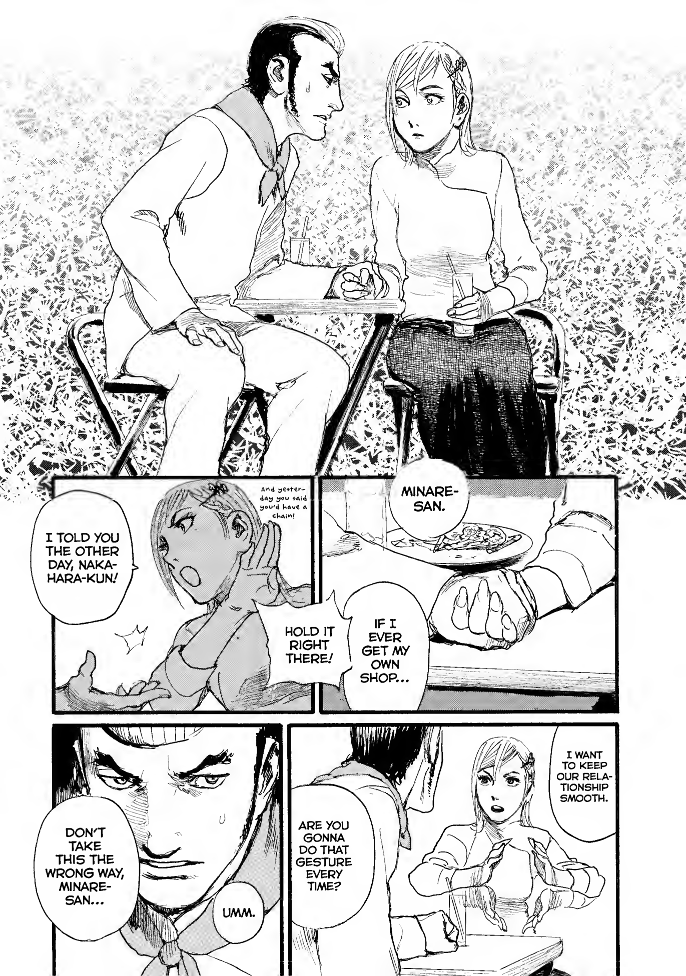
http://www.●●●●●.jp

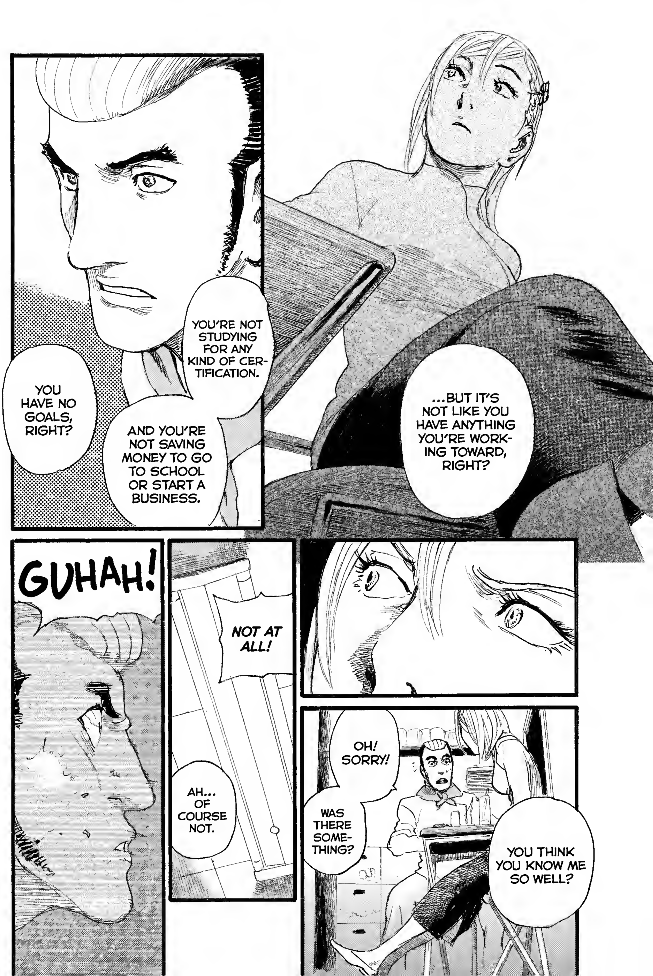
*We will hire on a first come, first serve basis.

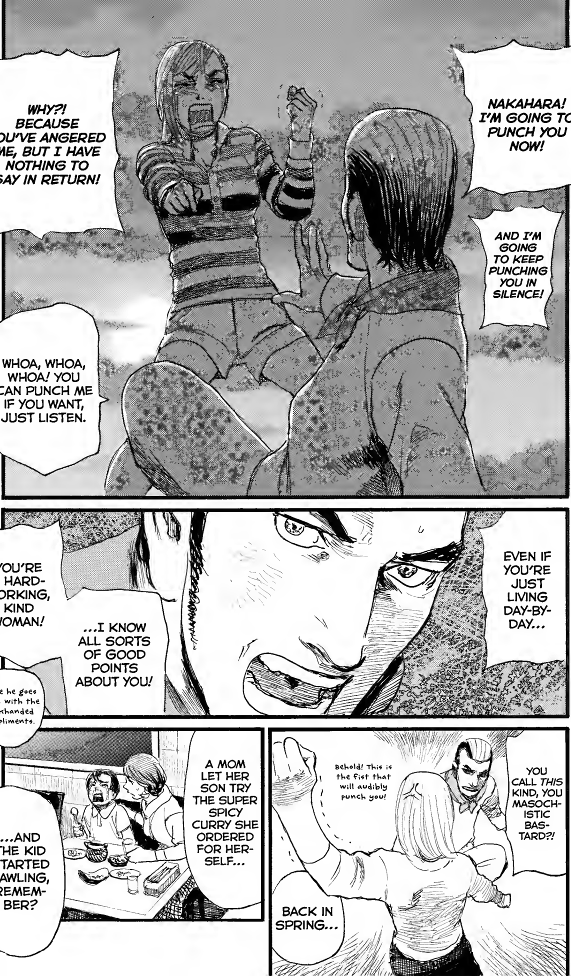
カタカタカタカタ
clack
clack
clack
clack
I'LL HAVE THE TOMATO CURRY WITH PORK, LEVEL FIVE PLEASE.
MRS Moiwayama Radio Twelve o'clock! Coming up next is Soju Tenho's Kensaku Sound Engine, with...
EXCUSE ME! WE'RE READY TO ORDER!
I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU!

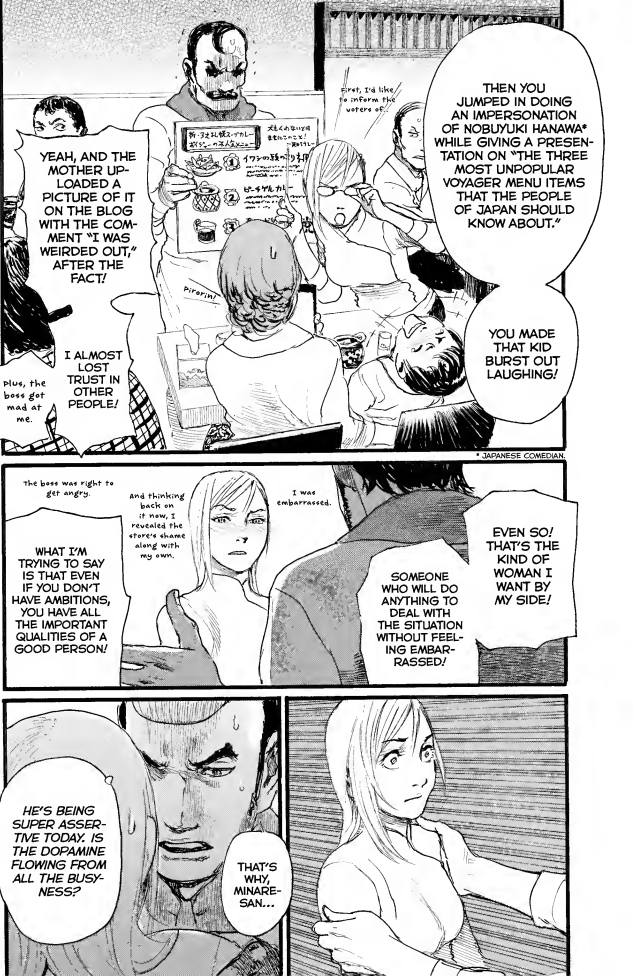

CAN I HAVE A RECEIPT, PLEASE?
GAHH! THAT'S THE THIRD PERSON IN A ROW!
LET ME REPEAT YOUR ORDER.
Up next! Kinniku Shojo Tai's "Laborer M."
Hyahhh!
WHY DON'T YOU CALL THAT KID FROM BEFORE?
IDE-KUN OR WHATEVER, THE ONE WHO HELPED OUT AT THE SUMMER FESTIVAL.
OH, HIM. HE HAD SOME KIND OF EPIPHANY WHILE HE WAS HELPING OUT THAT ONE TIME.
HE'S STUDYING MEDICINE AT MEN-TSEE-KHANG IN TIBET RIGHT NOW. APPARENTLY HE WANTS TO MASTER TIBETAN MEDICINE.
what drove him to that?
IS THAT RIGHT...? ALL HE DID WAS HEAT UP FROZEN CURRY AND POUR IT OVER RICE.


KINDA WEIRD TO SAY IT NOW THAT THE RUSH IS OVER...
...BUT ISN'T THIS HECTIC ENVIRONMENT FUN?
I'LL BE AMAZED IF YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN IN A WEEK.
SLURP
THIS IS GIVING ME A CHANCE TO LIVE OUT MY DREAM.
和屋
I ALWAYS WANTED TO GET MARRIED AND RUN A SMALL RESTAURANT WITH MY WIFE. I KNOW IT WOULDN'T BE EASY WITH JUST THE TWO OF US...
...BUT WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE IN THE SHOPPING DISTRICT, I ENVISION A FUTURE WHERE EVERYONE IS ALWAYS SMILING.
SOUNDS STRAIGHT OUT OF *CAMOUFLAGE FAMILY.*
MINARE-SAN...

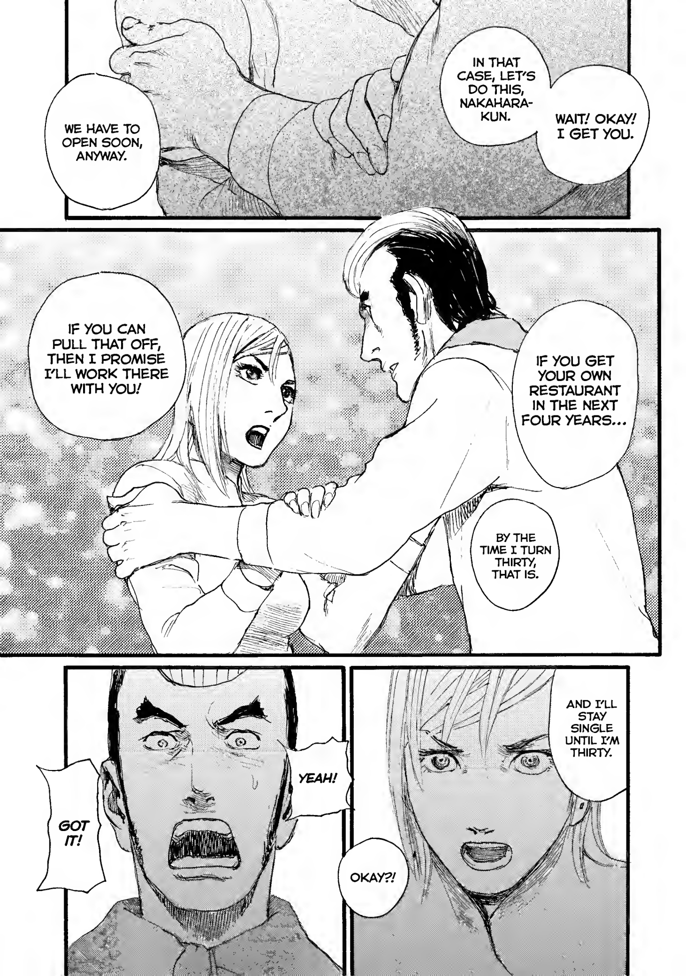

MINARE-SAN.
IF I EVER GET MY OWN SHOP...
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
I TOLD YOU THE OTHER DAY, NAKAHARA-KUN!
And yesterday you said you'd have a chain!
I WANT TO KEEP OUR RELATIONSHIP SMOOTH.
ARE YOU GONNA DO THAT GESTURE EVERY TIME?
UMM.
DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, MINARE-SAN...

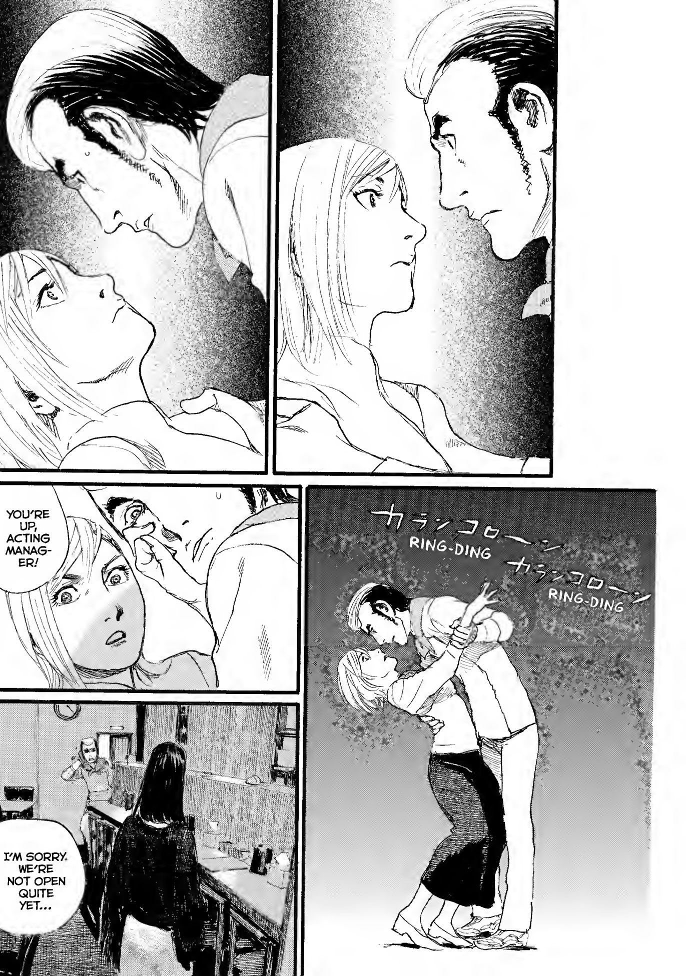

...BUT IT'S NOT LIKE YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU'RE WORKING TOWARD, RIGHT?
YOU'RE NOT STUDYING FOR ANY KIND OF CERTIFICATION.
AND YOU'RE NOT SAVING MONEY TO GO TO SCHOOL OR START A BUSINESS.
YOU HAVE NO GOALS, RIGHT?
YOU THINK YOU KNOW ME SO WELL?
OH! SORRY!
WAS THERE SOMETHING?
NOT AT ALL!
AH... OF COURSE NOT.
GUHAH!

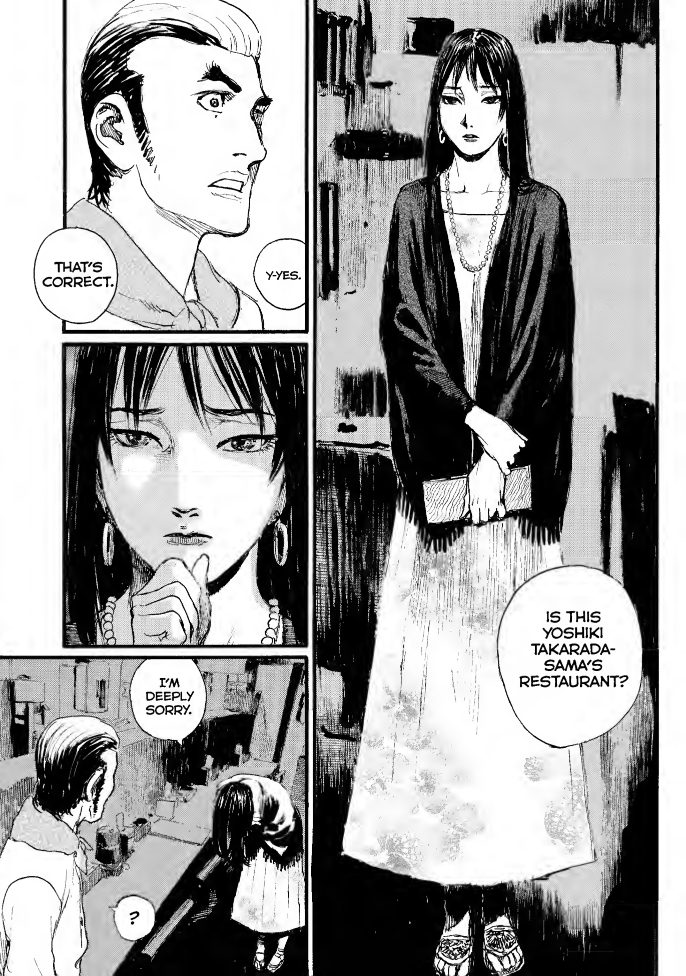

NAKAHARA! I'M GOING TO PUNCH YOU NOW!
AND I'M GOING TO KEEP PUNCHING YOU IN SILENCE!
WHY?! BECAUSE YOU'VE ANGERED ME, BUT I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY IN RETURN!
WHOA, WHOA, WHOA! YOU CAN PUNCH ME IF YOU WANT, JUST LISTEN.
EVEN IF YOU'RE JUST LIVING DAY-BY-DAY...
...I KNOW ALL SORTS OF GOOD POINTS ABOUT YOU!
YOU'RE A HARD-WORKING, KIND WOMAN!
There he goes again with the backhanded compliments.
YOU CALL *THIS* KIND, YOU MASOCHISTIC BASTARD?!
Behold! This is the fist that will audibly punch you!
BACK IN SPRING...
A MOM LET HER SON TRY THE SUPER SPICY CURRY SHE ORDERED FOR HERSELF...
...AND THE KID STARTED BAWLING, REMEMBER?

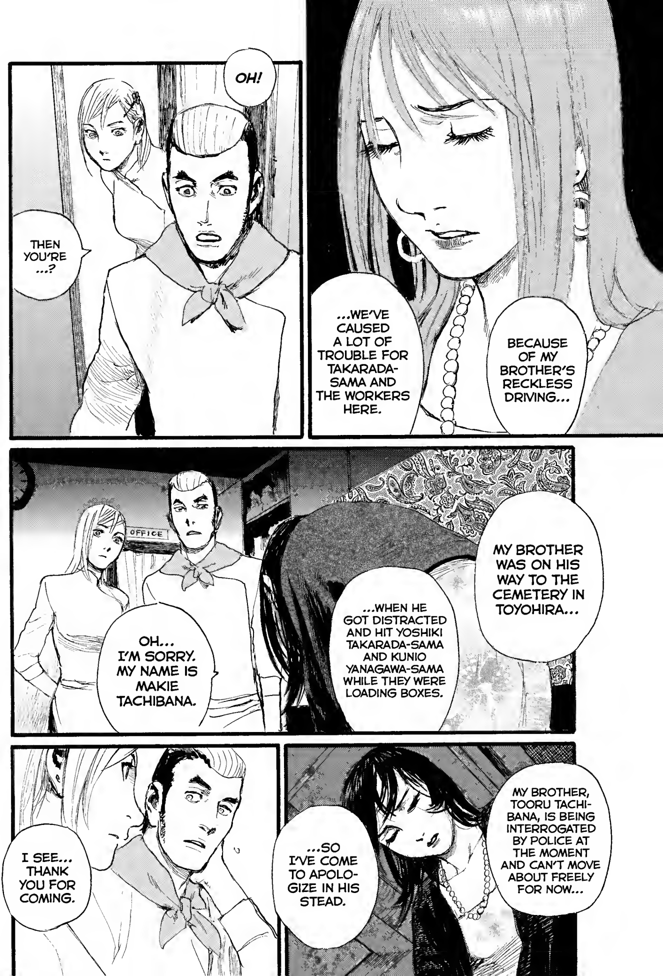

THEN YOU JUMPED IN DOING AN IMPERSONATION OF NOBUYUKI HANAWA* WHILE GIVING A PRESENTATION ON "THE THREE MOST UNPOPULAR VOYAGER MENU ITEMS THAT THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT."
First, I'd like to inform the voters of...
YOU MADE THAT KID BURST OUT LAUGHING!
YEAH, AND THE MOTHER UPLOADED A PICTURE OF IT ON THE BLOG WITH THE COMMENT "I WAS WEIRDED OUT," AFTER THE FACT!
Pirorin!
I ALMOST LOST TRUST IN OTHER PEOPLE!
Plus, the boss got mad at me.
EVEN SO! THAT'S THE KIND OF WOMAN I WANT BY MY SIDE!
SOMEONE WHO WILL DO ANYTHING TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION WITHOUT FEELING EMBARRASSED!
I was embarrassed.
And thinking back on it now, I revealed the store's shame along with my own.
The boss was right to get angry.
WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS THAT EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE AMBITIONS, YOU HAVE ALL THE IMPORTANT QUALITIES OF A GOOD PERSON!
THAT'S WHY, MINARE-SAN...
HE'S BEING SUPER ASSERTIVE TODAY. IS THE DOPAMINE FLOWING FROM ALL THE BUSYNESS?

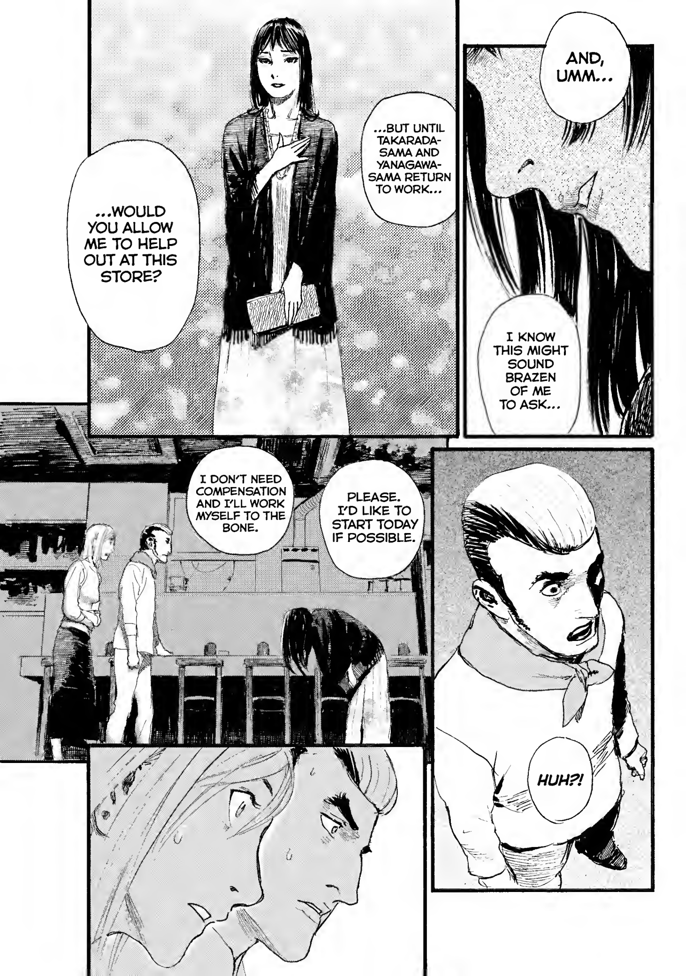
* JAPANESE COMEDIAN.

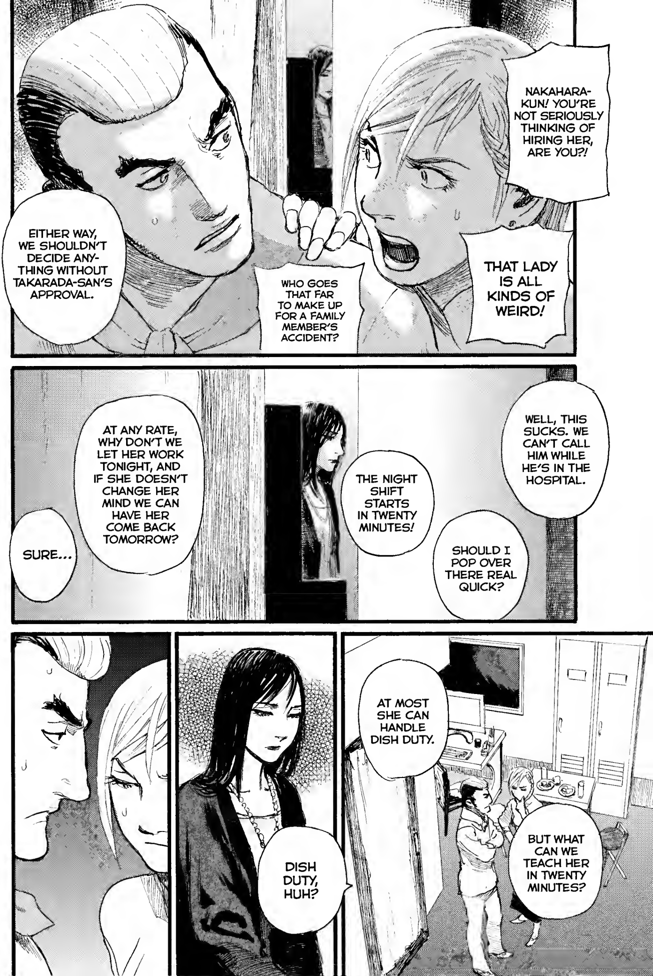

IN THAT CASE, LET'S DO THIS, NAKAHARA-KUN.
WAIT! OKAY! I GET YOU.
WE HAVE TO OPEN SOON, ANYWAY.
IF YOU GET YOUR OWN RESTAURANT IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS...
BY THE TIME I TURN THIRTY, THAT IS.
IF YOU CAN PULL THAT OFF, THEN I PROMISE I'LL WORK THERE WITH YOU!
AND I'LL STAY SINGLE UNTIL I'M THIRTY.
OKAY?!
YEAH!
GOT IT!

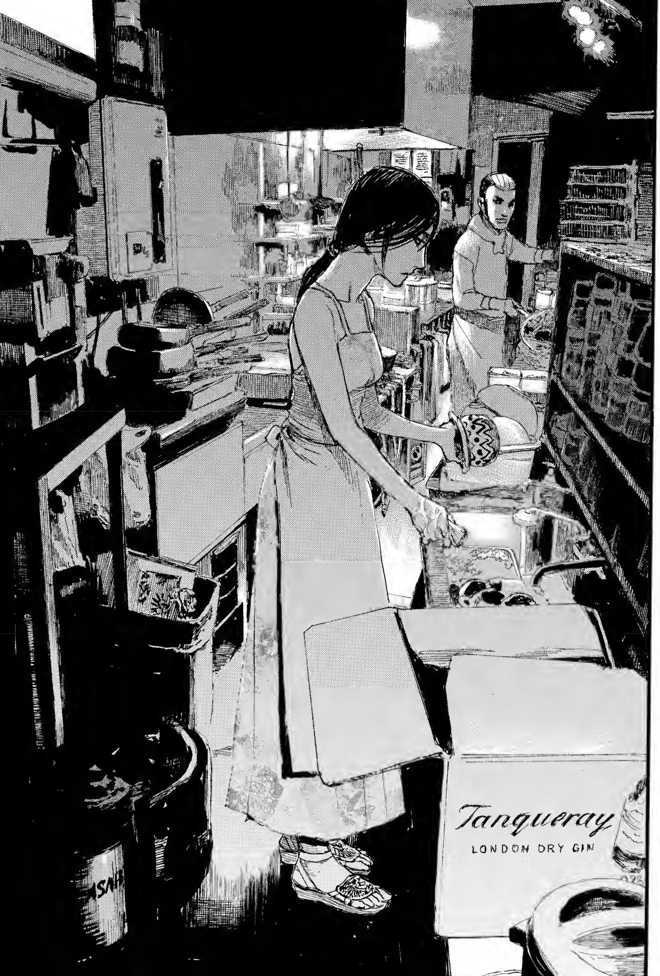

カランコローン
RING-DING
カランコローン
RING-DING
YOU'RE UP, ACTING MANAGER!
I'M SORRY. WE'RE NOT OPEN QUITE YET...

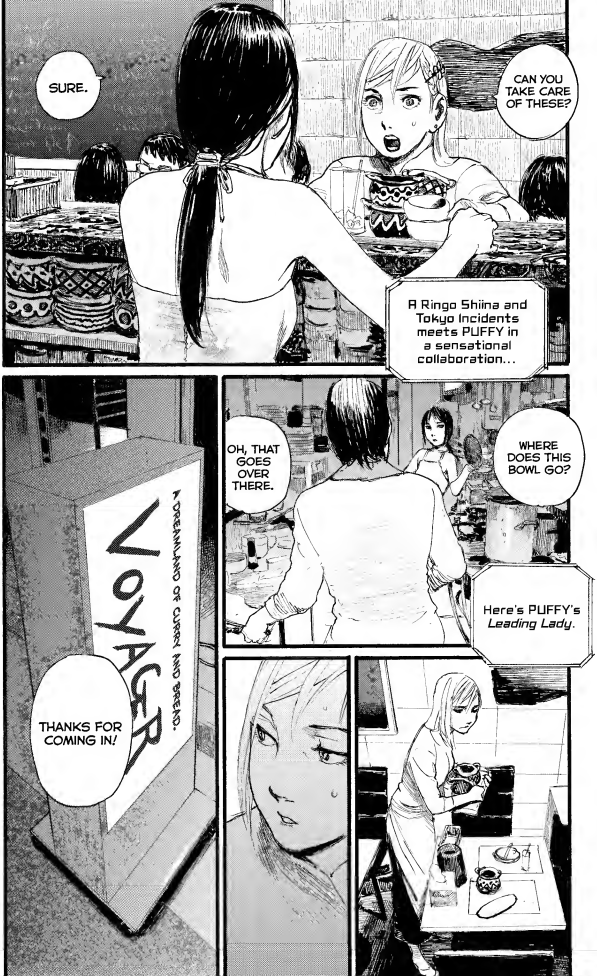

IS THIS YOSHIKI TAKARADA-SAMA'S RESTAURANT?
Y-YES.
THAT'S CORRECT.
I'M DEEPLY SORRY.
?

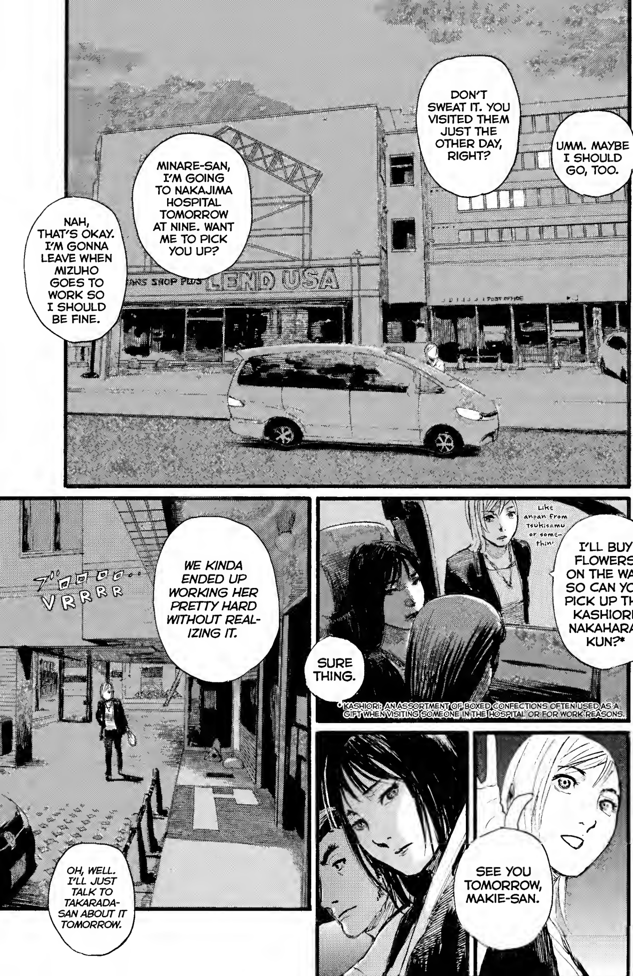

BECAUSE OF MY BROTHER'S RECKLESS DRIVING...
...WE'VE CAUSED A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR TAKARADA-SAMA AND THE WORKERS HERE.
OH!
THEN YOU'RE ...?
MY BROTHER WAS ON HIS WAY TO THE CEMETERY IN TOYOHIRA...
...WHEN HE GOT DISTRACTED AND HIT YOSHIKI TAKARADA-SAMA AND KUNIO YANAGAWA-SAMA WHILE THEY WERE LOADING BOXES.
OFFICE
OH... I'M SORRY. MY NAME IS MAKIE TACHIBANA.
MY BROTHER, TOORU TACHIBANA, IS BEING INTERROGATED BY POLICE AT THE MOMENT AND CAN'T MOVE ABOUT FREELY FOR NOW...
...SO I'VE COME TO APOLOGIZE IN HIS STEAD.
I SEE... THANK YOU FOR COMING.

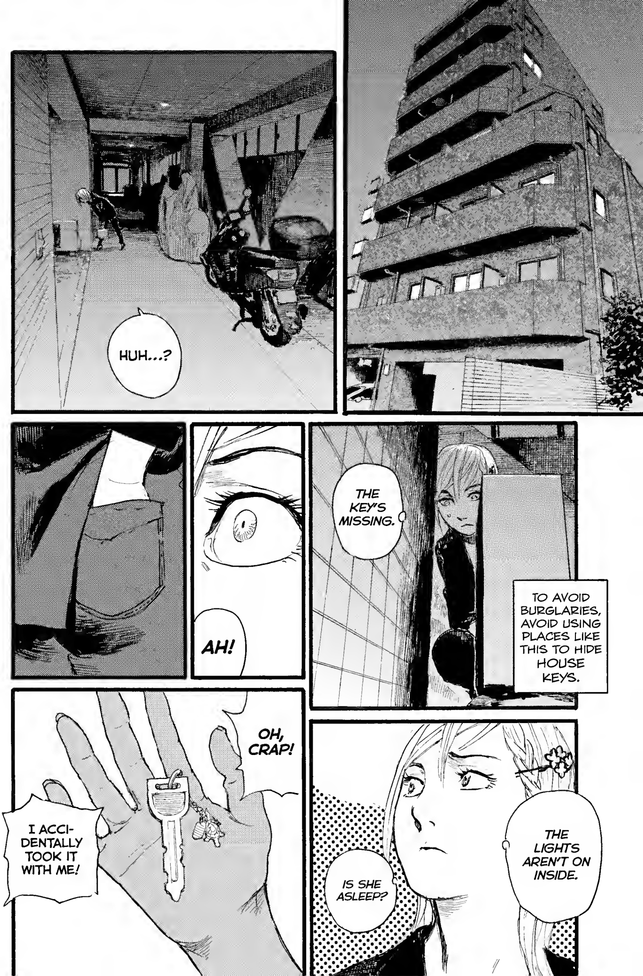

AND, UMM...
I KNOW THIS MIGHT SOUND BRAZEN OF ME TO ASK...
...BUT UNTIL TAKARADA-SAMA AND YANAGAWA-SAMA RETURN TO WORK...
...WOULD YOU ALLOW ME TO HELP OUT AT THIS STORE?
I DON'T NEED COMPENSATION AND I'LL WORK MYSELF TO THE BONE.
PLEASE. I'D LIKE TO START TODAY IF POSSIBLE.
HUH?!

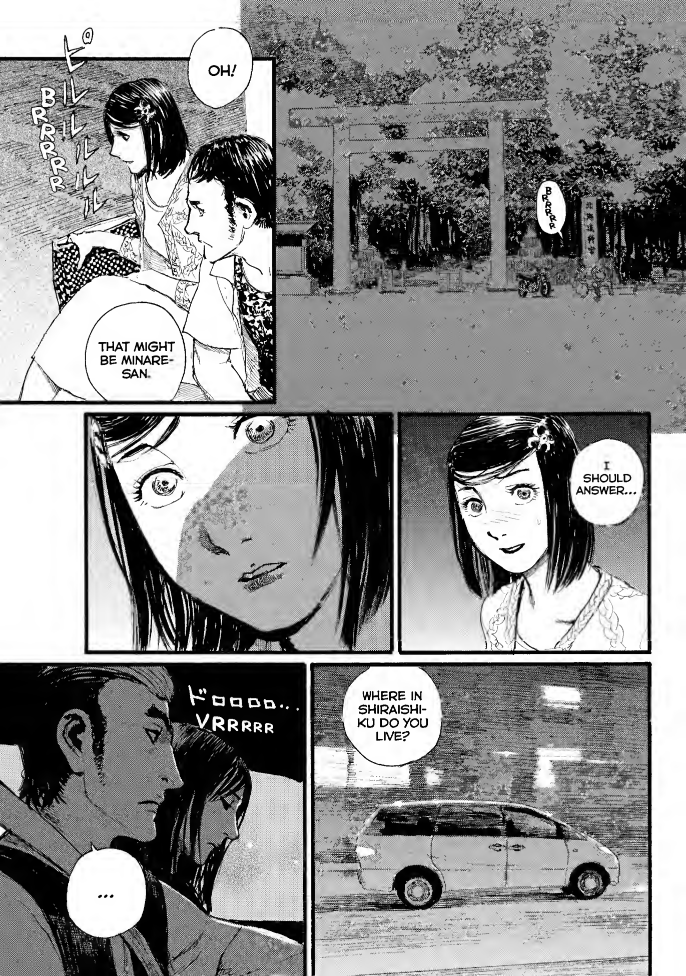

NAKAHARA-KUN! YOU'RE NOT SERIOUSLY THINKING OF HIRING HER, ARE YOU?!
THAT LADY IS ALL KINDS OF WEIRD!
WHO GOES THAT FAR TO MAKE UP FOR A FAMILY MEMBER'S ACCIDENT?
EITHER WAY, WE SHOULDN'T DECIDE ANYTHING WITHOUT TAKARADA-SAN'S APPROVAL.
WELL, THIS SUCKS. WE CAN'T CALL HIM WHILE HE'S IN THE HOSPITAL.
SHOULD I POP OVER THERE REAL QUICK?
THE NIGHT SHIFT STARTS IN TWENTY MINUTES!
AT ANY RATE, WHY DON'T WE LET HER WORK TONIGHT, AND IF SHE DOESN'T CHANGE HER MIND WE CAN HAVE HER COME BACK TOMORROW?
SURE...
AT MOST SHE CAN HANDLE DISH DUTY.
BUT WHAT CAN WE TEACH HER IN TWENTY MINUTES?
DISH DUTY, HUH?

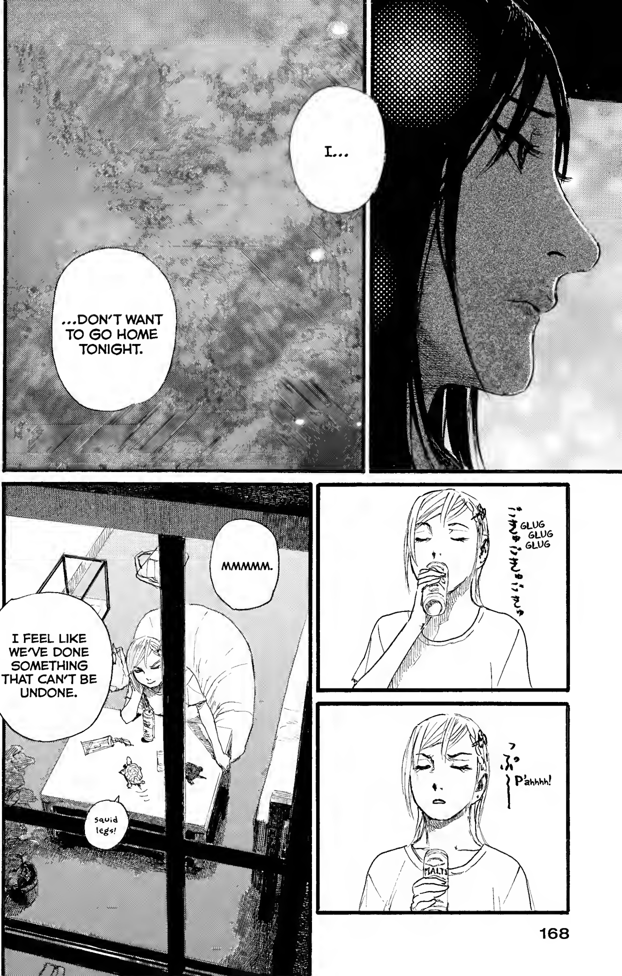

Tanqueray
LONDON DRY GIN
ASAH


CAN YOU TAKE CARE OF THESE?
SURE.
A Ringo Shiina and Tokyo Incidents meets PUFFY in a sensational collaboration...
WHERE DOES THIS BOWL GO?
OH, THAT GOES OVER THERE.
Here's PUFFY's *Leading Lady*.
A DREAMLAND OF CURRY AND BREAD.
VOYAGER
THANKS FOR COMING IN!

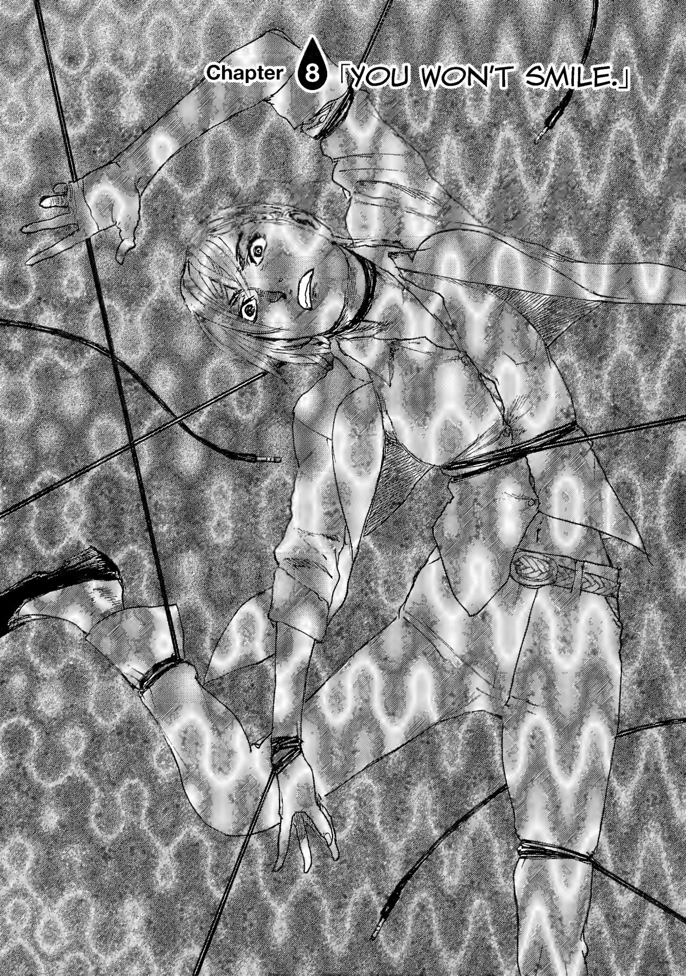

UMM. MAYBE I SHOULD GO, TOO.
DON'T SWEAT IT. YOU VISITED THEM JUST THE OTHER DAY, RIGHT?
MINARE-SAN, I'M GOING TO NAKAJIMA HOSPITAL TOMORROW AT NINE. WANT ME TO PICK YOU UP?
NAH, THAT'S OKAY. I'M GONNA LEAVE WHEN MIZUHO GOES TO WORK SO I SHOULD BE FINE.
JEANS SHOP PLUS
LEND USA
POST OFFICE
I'LL BUY FLOWERS ON THE WAY, SO CAN YOU PICK UP THE KASHIORI, NAKAHARA-KUN?*
Like anpan from Tsukisamu or somethin'
SURE THING.
* KASHIORI: AN ASSORTMENT OF BOXED CONFECTIONS OFTEN USED AS A GIFT WHEN VISITING SOMEONE IN THE HOSPITAL OR FOR WORK REASONS.
ブロロロロ… VRRRR
WE KINDA ENDED UP WORKING HER PRETTY HARD WITHOUT REALIZING IT.
OH, WELL. I'LL JUST TALK TO TAKARADA-SAN ABOUT IT TOMORROW.
SEE YOU TOMORROW, MAKIE-SAN.

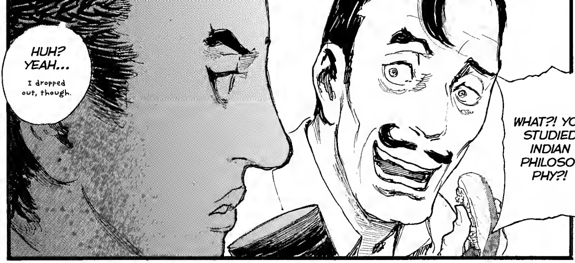

HUH...?
THE KEY'S MISSING.
TO AVOID BURGLARIES, AVOID USING PLACES LIKE THIS TO HIDE HOUSE KEYS.
AH!
THE LIGHTS AREN'T ON INSIDE.
IS SHE ASLEEP?
OH, CRAP!
I ACCIDENTALLY TOOK IT WITH ME!


ピルルルル
BRRRRR
OH!
BRRRRR
THAT MIGHT BE MINARE-SAN.
I SHOULD ANSWER...
ドロロロ...
VRRRRR
...
WHERE IN SHIRAISHI-KU DO YOU LIVE?

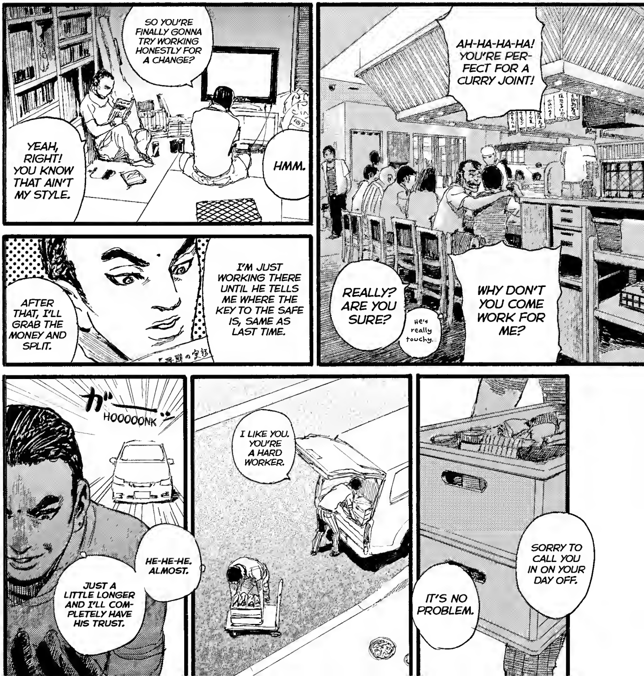

I...
...DON'T WANT TO GO HOME TONIGHT.
ごきゅごきゅごきゅ
GLUG GLUG GLUG
っぷ～
P'ahhhh!
MMMMM.
I FEEL LIKE WE'VE DONE SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE UNDONE.
Squid legs!
MALTS

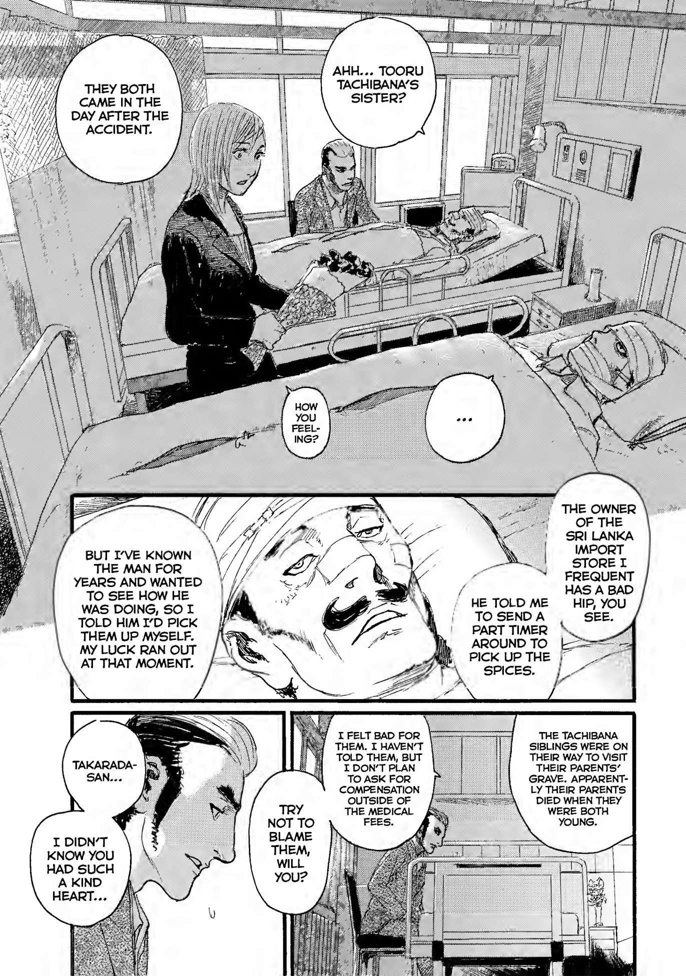
Chapter 8 「YOU WON'T SMILE.」

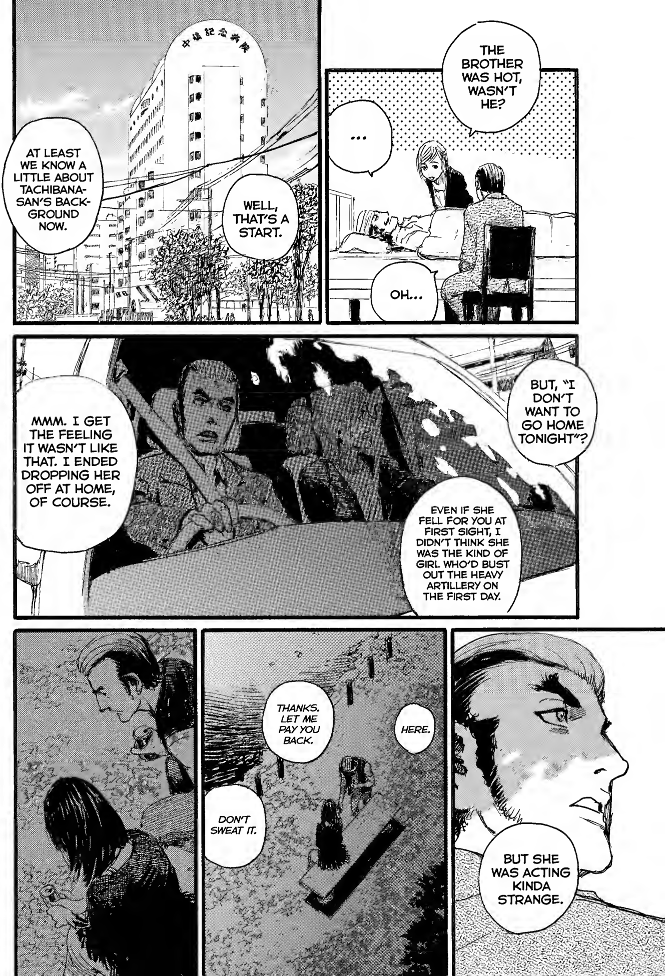


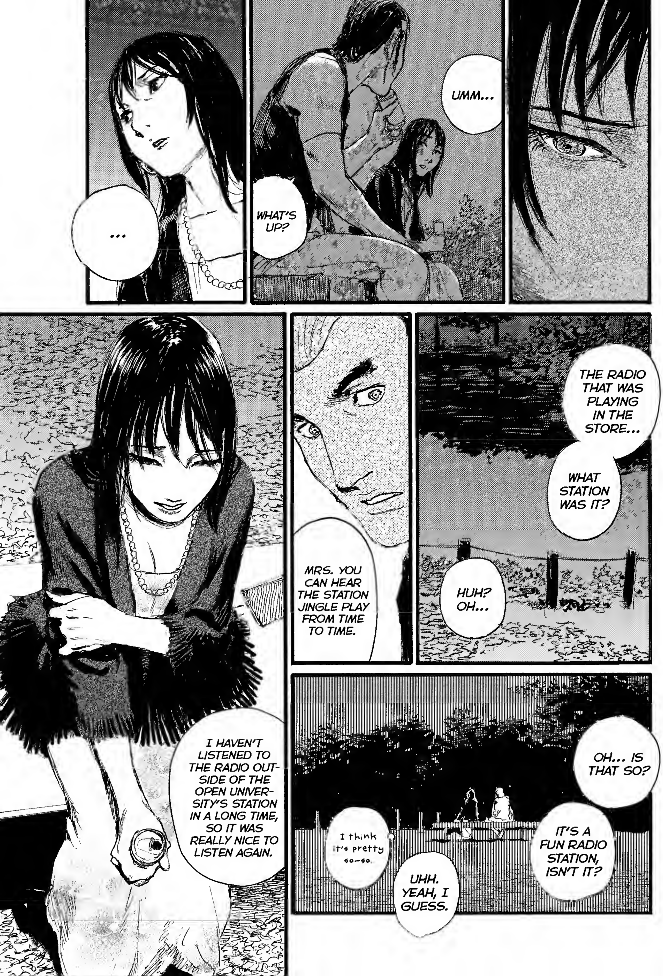

WHAT?! YOU STUDIED INDIAN PHILOSOPHY?!
HUH? YEAH... I dropped out, though.

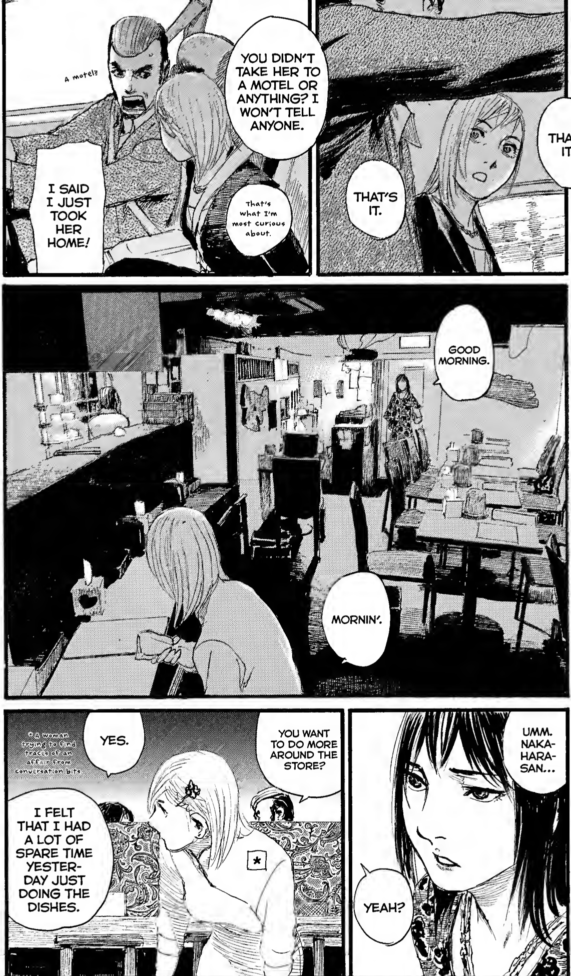
A day in the life of Kunio Yanagawa (25), Tokyo U dropout & part-timer.

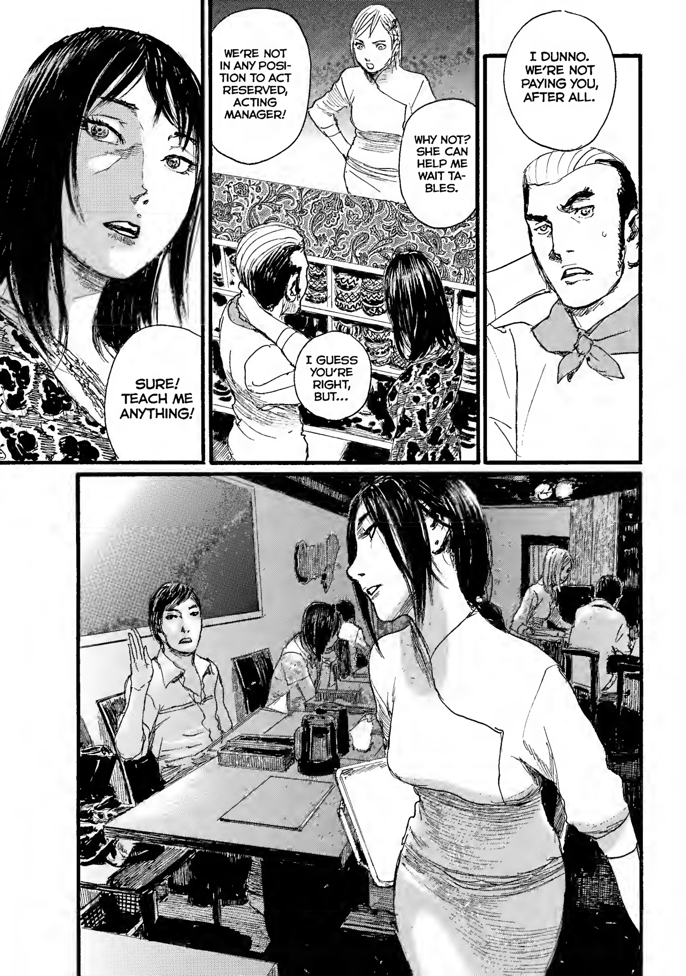

AH-HA-HA-HA! YOU'RE PERFECT FOR A CURRY JOINT!
WHY DON'T YOU COME WORK FOR ME?
REALLY? ARE YOU SURE?
He's really touchy.
SO YOU'RE FINALLY GONNA TRY WORKING HONESTLY FOR A CHANGE?
HMM.
YEAH, RIGHT! YOU KNOW THAT AIN'T MY STYLE.
I'M JUST WORKING THERE UNTIL HE TELLS ME WHERE THE KEY TO THE SAFE IS, SAME AS LAST TIME.
AFTER THAT, I'LL GRAB THE MONEY AND SPLIT.
SORRY TO CALL YOU IN ON YOUR DAY OFF.
IT'S NO PROBLEM.
I LIKE YOU. YOU'RE A HARD WORKER.
ガー HOOOOONK
HE-HE-HE. ALMOST.
JUST A LITTLE LONGER AND I'LL COMPLETELY HAVE HIS TRUST.

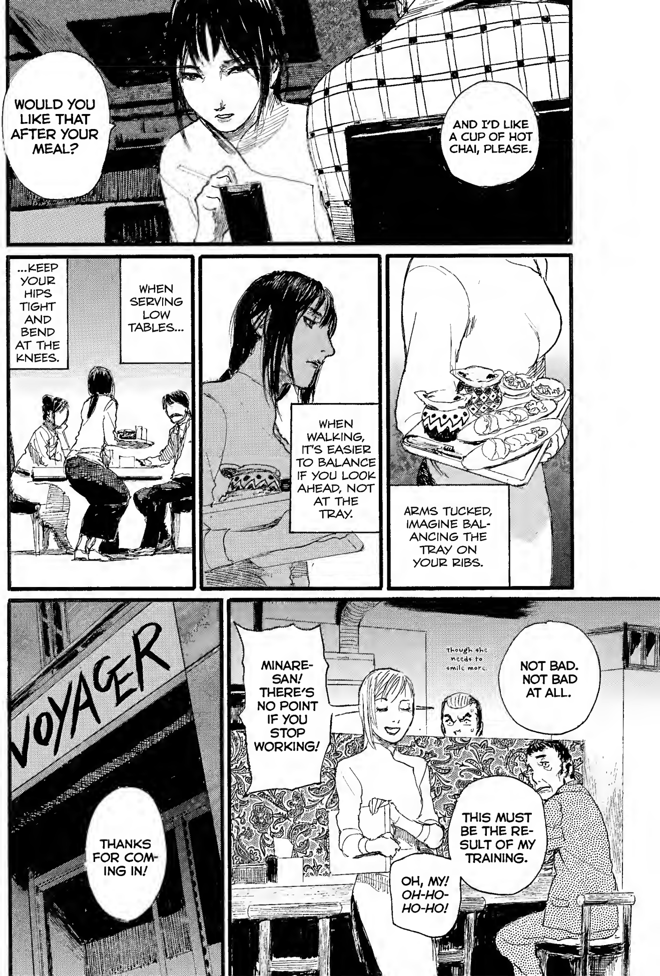

AHH... TOORU TACHIBANA'S SISTER?
THEY BOTH CAME IN THE DAY AFTER THE ACCIDENT.
...
HOW YOU FEELING?
THE OWNER OF THE SRI LANKA IMPORT STORE I FREQUENT HAS A BAD HIP, YOU SEE.
HE TOLD ME TO SEND A PART TIMER AROUND TO PICK UP THE SPICES.
BUT I'VE KNOWN THE MAN FOR YEARS AND WANTED TO SEE HOW HE WAS DOING, SO I TOLD HIM I'D PICK THEM UP MYSELF. MY LUCK RAN OUT AT THAT MOMENT.
THE TACHIBANA SIBLINGS WERE ON THEIR WAY TO VISIT THEIR PARENTS' GRAVE. APPARENTLY THEIR PARENTS DIED WHEN THEY WERE BOTH YOUNG.
I FELT BAD FOR THEM. I HAVEN'T TOLD THEM, BUT I DON'T PLAN TO ASK FOR COMPENSATION OUTSIDE OF THE MEDICAL FEES.
TRY NOT TO BLAME THEM, WILL YOU?
TAKARADA-SAN...
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD SUCH A KIND HEART...

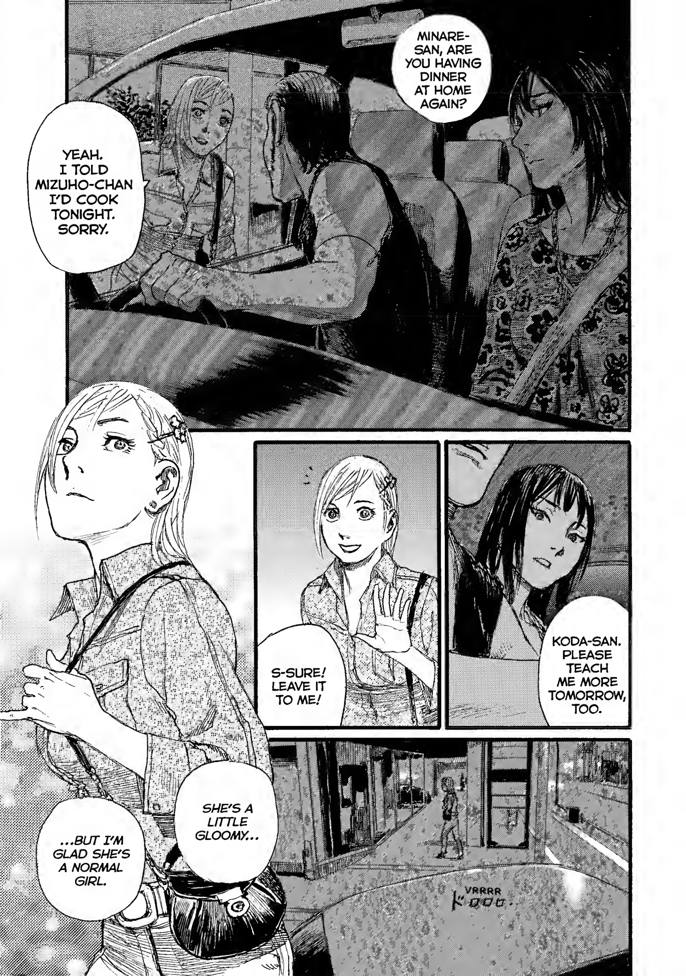

AT LEAST WE KNOW A LITTLE ABOUT TACHIBANA-SAN'S BACKGROUND NOW.
WELL, THAT'S A START.
THE BROTHER WAS HOT, WASN'T HE?
...
OH...
BUT, "I DON'T WANT TO GO HOME TONIGHT"?
EVEN IF SHE FELL FOR YOU AT FIRST SIGHT, I DIDN'T THINK SHE WAS THE KIND OF GIRL WHO'D BUST OUT THE HEAVY ARTILLERY ON THE FIRST DAY.
MMM. I GET THE FEELING IT WASN'T LIKE THAT. I ENDED DROPPING HER OFF AT HOME, OF COURSE.
HERE.
THANKS. LET ME PAY YOU BACK.
DON'T SWEAT IT.
BUT SHE WAS ACTING KINDA STRANGE.

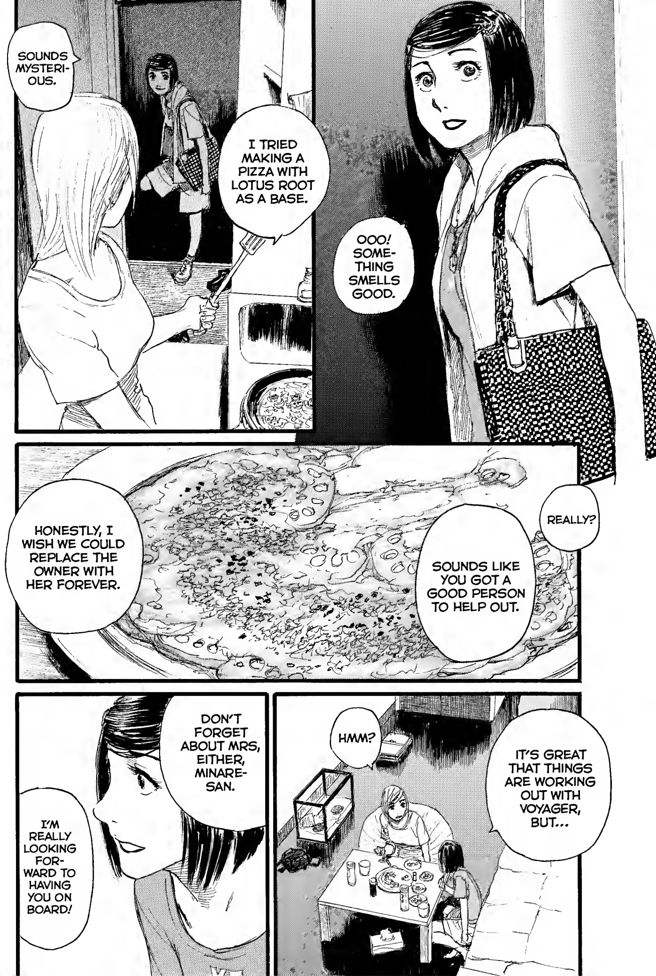

UMM...
WHAT'S UP?
...
THE RADIO THAT WAS PLAYING IN THE STORE...
WHAT STATION WAS IT?
HUH? OH...
MRS. YOU CAN HEAR THE STATION JINGLE PLAY FROM TIME TO TIME.
OH... IS THAT SO?
IT'S A FUN RADIO STATION, ISN'T IT?
UHH. YEAH, I GUESS.
I think it's pretty so-so.
I HAVEN'T LISTENED TO THE RADIO OUTSIDE OF THE OPEN UNIVERSITY'S STATION IN A LONG TIME, SO IT WAS REALLY NICE TO LISTEN AGAIN.

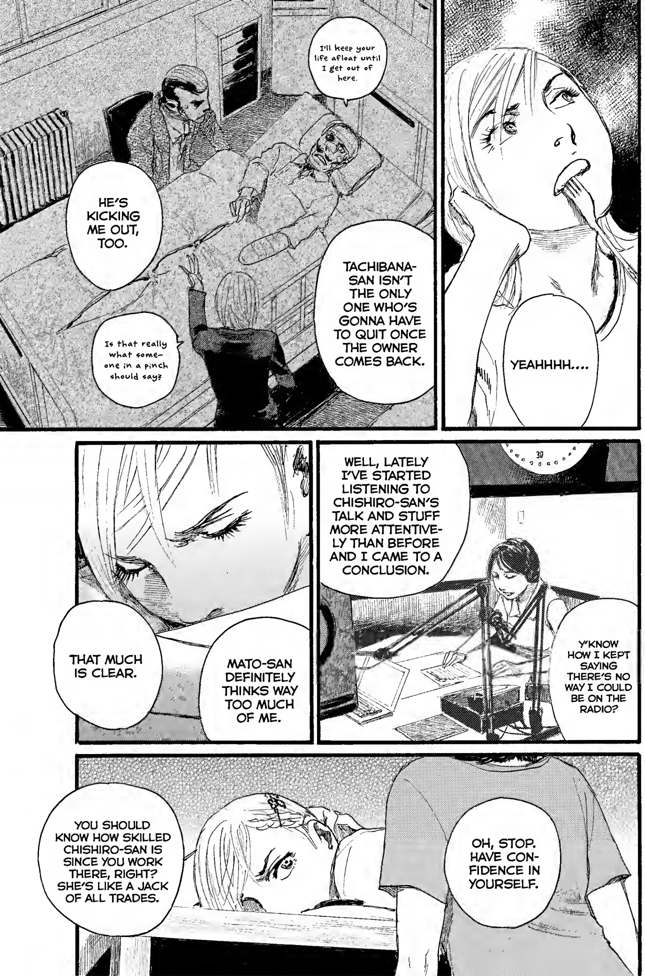

THAT'S IT?
THAT'S IT.
YOU DIDN'T TAKE HER TO A MOTEL OR ANYTHING? I WON'T TELL ANYONE.
That's what I'm most curious about.
A motel?
I SAID I JUST TOOK HER HOME!
GOOD MORNING.
MORNIN'.
UMM. NAKAHARA-SAN...
YEAH?
YOU WANT TO DO MORE AROUND THE STORE?
YES.
I FELT THAT I HAD A LOT OF SPARE TIME YESTERDAY JUST DOING THE DISHES.
*
*A woman trying to find traces of an affair from conversation bits

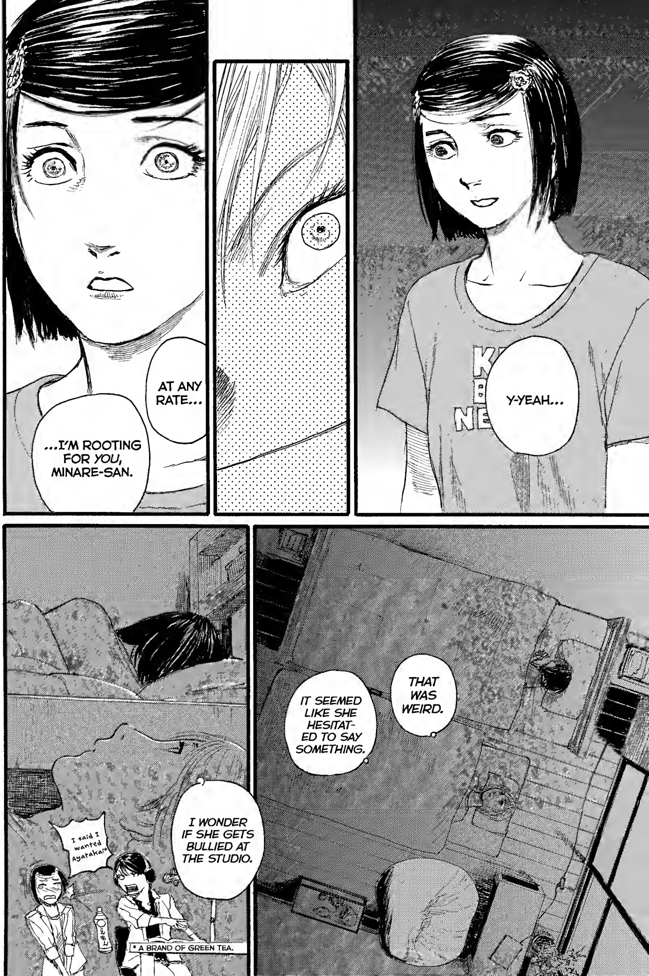

I DUNNO. WE'RE NOT PAYING YOU, AFTER ALL.
WHY NOT? SHE CAN HELP ME WAIT TABLES.
WE'RE NOT IN ANY POSITION TO ACT RESERVED, ACTING MANAGER!
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT...
SURE! TEACH ME ANYTHING!


AND I'D LIKE A CUP OF HOT CHAI, PLEASE.
WOULD YOU LIKE THAT AFTER YOUR MEAL?
ARMS TUCKED, IMAGINE BALANCING THE TRAY ON YOUR RIBS.
WHEN WALKING, IT'S EASIER TO BALANCE IF YOU LOOK AHEAD, NOT AT THE TRAY.
WHEN SERVING LOW TABLES...
...KEEP YOUR HIPS TIGHT AND BEND AT THE KNEES.
NOT BAD. NOT BAD AT ALL.
Though she needs to smile more.
MINARE-SAN! THERE'S NO POINT IF YOU STOP WORKING!
THIS MUST BE THE RESULT OF MY TRAINING.
OH, MY! OH-HO-HO-HO!
VOYAGER
THANKS FOR COMING IN!

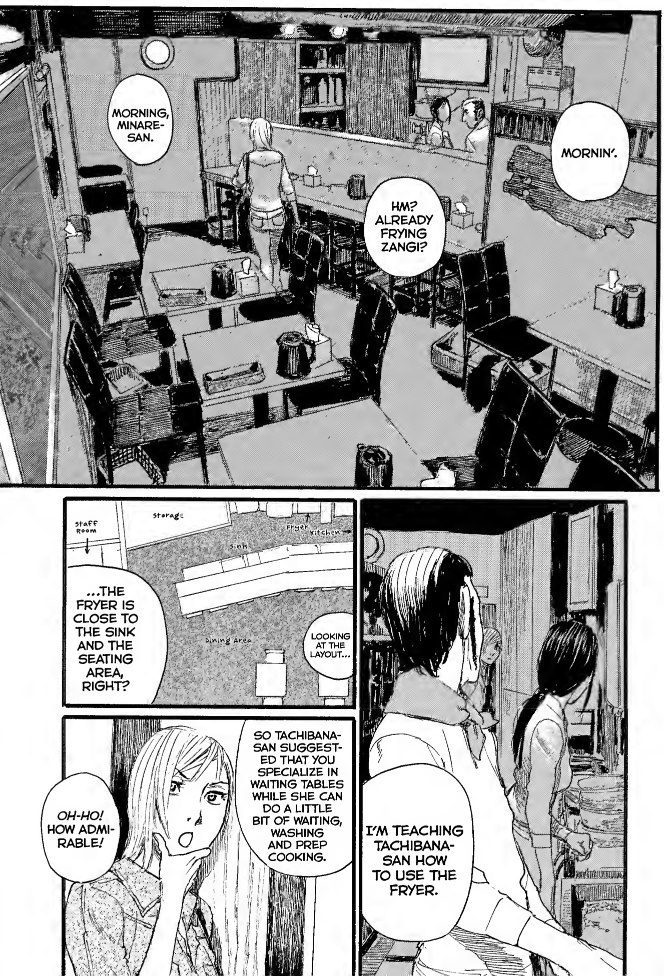

MINARE-SAN, ARE YOU HAVING DINNER AT HOME AGAIN?
YEAH. I TOLD MIZUHO-CHAN I'D COOK TONIGHT. SORRY.
KODA-SAN. PLEASE TEACH ME MORE TOMORROW, TOO.
S-SURE! LEAVE IT TO ME!
VRRRR
ドロロロ..
SHE'S A LITTLE GLOOMY...
...BUT I'M GLAD SHE'S A NORMAL GIRL.

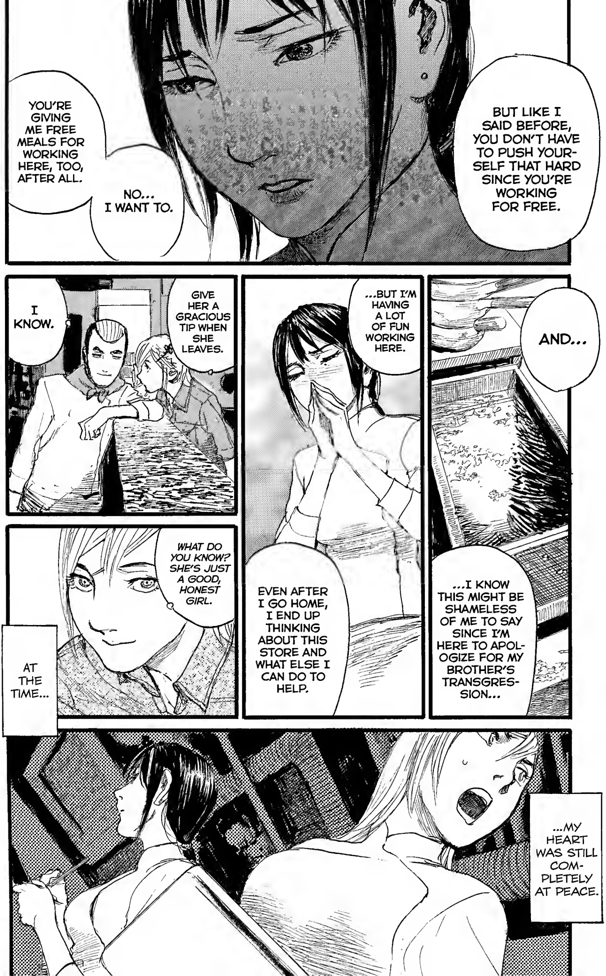

OOO! SOMETHING SMELLS GOOD.
I TRIED MAKING A PIZZA WITH LOTUS ROOT AS A BASE.
SOUNDS MYSTERIOUS.
REALLY?
SOUNDS LIKE YOU GOT A GOOD PERSON TO HELP OUT.
HONESTLY, I WISH WE COULD REPLACE THE OWNER WITH HER FOREVER.
IT'S GREAT THAT THINGS ARE WORKING OUT WITH VOYAGER, BUT...
HMM?
DON'T FORGET ABOUT MRS, EITHER, MINARE-SAN.
I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING YOU ON BOARD!

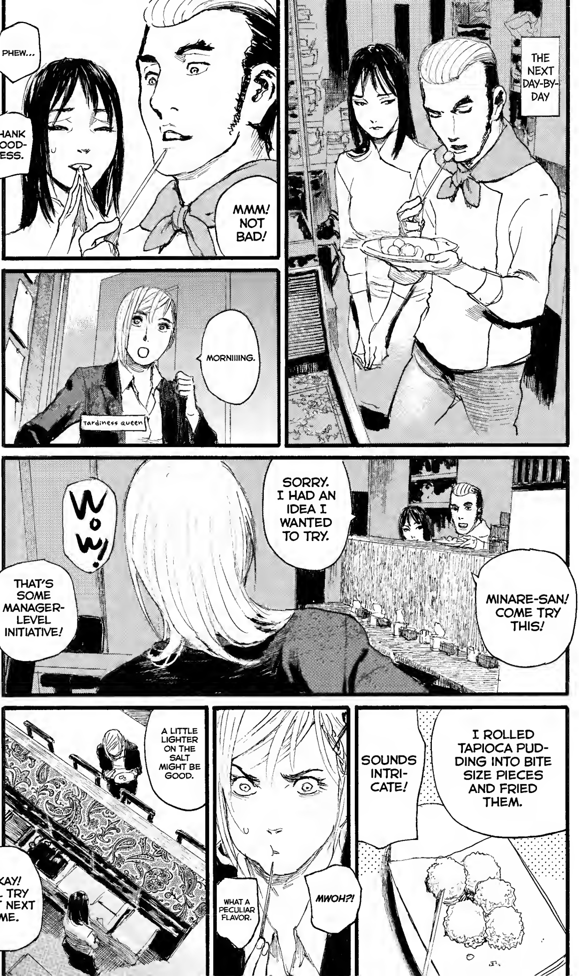

YEAHHHH....
I'll keep your life afloat until I get out of here.
TACHIBANA-SAN ISN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO'S GONNA HAVE TO QUIT ONCE THE OWNER COMES BACK.
HE'S KICKING ME OUT, TOO.
Is that really what someone in a pinch should say?
Y'KNOW HOW I KEPT SAYING THERE'S NO WAY I COULD BE ON THE RADIO?
WELL, LATELY I'VE STARTED LISTENING TO CHISHIRO-SAN'S TALK AND STUFF MORE ATTENTIVELY THAN BEFORE AND I CAME TO A CONCLUSION.
MATO-SAN DEFINITELY THINKS WAY TOO MUCH OF ME.
THAT MUCH IS CLEAR.
OH, STOP. HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF.
YOU SHOULD KNOW HOW SKILLED CHISHIRO-SAN IS SINCE YOU WORK THERE, RIGHT? SHE'S LIKE A JACK OF ALL TRADES.

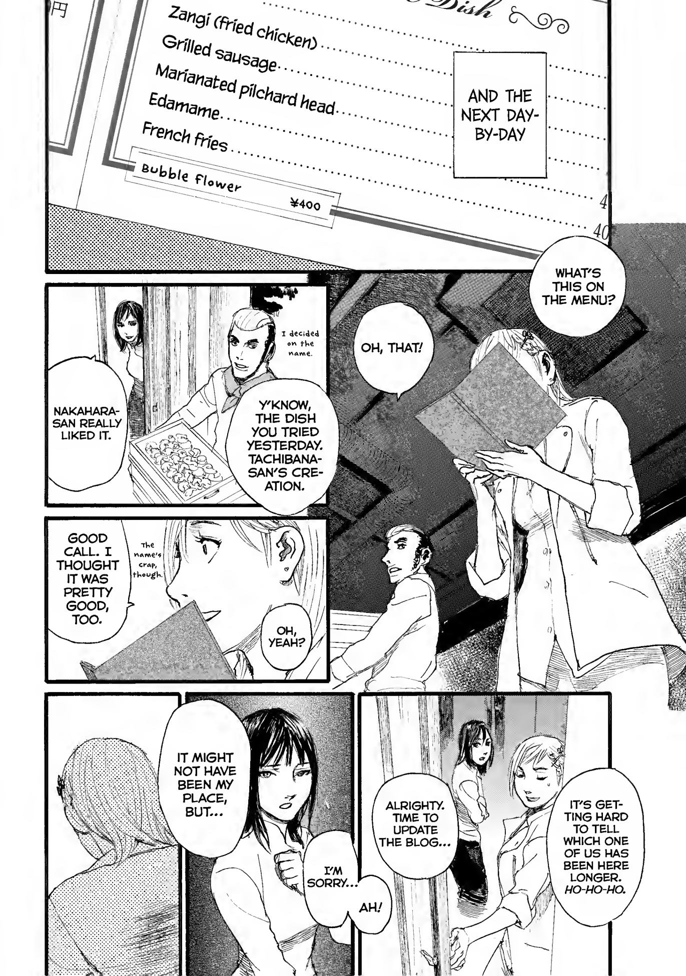

Y-YEAH...
AT ANY RATE...
...I'M ROOTING FOR *YOU*, MINARE-SAN.
THAT WAS WEIRD.
IT SEEMED LIKE SHE HESITATED TO SAY SOMETHING.
I WONDER IF SHE GETS BULLIED AT THE STUDIO.
I said I wanted Ayataka!*

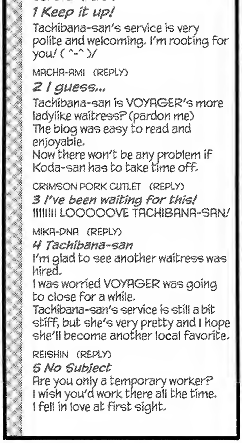
* A BRAND OF GREEN TEA.


MORNIN'.
HM? ALREADY FRYING ZANGI?
MORNING, MINARE-SAN.
I'M TEACHING TACHIBANA-SAN HOW TO USE THE FRYER.
Staff Room
Storage
Fryer
Kitchen
Sink
Dining Area
LOOKING AT THE LAYOUT...
...THE FRYER IS CLOSE TO THE SINK AND THE SEATING AREA, RIGHT?
SO TACHIBANA-SAN SUGGESTED THAT YOU SPECIALIZE IN WAITING TABLES WHILE SHE CAN DO A LITTLE BIT OF WAITING, WASHING AND PREP COOKING.
OH-HO! HOW ADMIRABLE!


BUT LIKE I SAID BEFORE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUSH YOURSELF THAT HARD SINCE YOU'RE WORKING FOR FREE.
NO... I WANT TO.
YOU'RE GIVING ME FREE MEALS FOR WORKING HERE, TOO, AFTER ALL.
AND...
...I KNOW THIS MIGHT BE SHAMELESS OF ME TO SAY SINCE I'M HERE TO APOLOGIZE FOR MY BROTHER'S TRANSGRESSION...
...BUT I'M HAVING A LOT OF FUN WORKING HERE.
EVEN AFTER I GO HOME, I END UP THINKING ABOUT THIS STORE AND WHAT ELSE I CAN DO TO HELP.
GIVE HER A GRACIOUS TIP WHEN SHE LEAVES.
I KNOW.
WHAT DO YOU KNOW? SHE'S JUST A GOOD, HONEST GIRL.
AT THE TIME...
...MY HEART WAS STILL COMPLETELY AT PEACE.


THE NEXT DAY-BY-DAY
MMM! NOT BAD!
PHEW...
THANK GOODNESS.
MORNIIIING.
Tardiness queen
MINARE-SAN! COME TRY THIS!
SORRY. I HAD AN IDEA I WANTED TO TRY.
WOW!
THAT'S SOME MANAGER-LEVEL INITIATIVE!
I ROLLED TAPIOCA PUDDING INTO BITE SIZE PIECES AND FRIED THEM.
SOUNDS INTRICATE!
MWOH?!
WHAT A PECULIAR FLAVOR.
A LITTLE LIGHTER ON THE SALT MIGHT BE GOOD.
OKAY! I'LL TRY THAT NEXT TIME.


円
Dish
Zangi (fried chicken)
Grilled sausage
Marianated pilchard head
Edamame
French fries
Bubble Flower ¥400
4
40
AND THE NEXT DAY-BY-DAY
WHAT'S THIS ON THE MENU?
OH, THAT!
Y'KNOW, THE DISH YOU TRIED YESTERDAY. TACHIBANA-SAN'S CREATION.
I decided on the name.
NAKAHARA-SAN REALLY LIKED IT.
OH, YEAH?
The name's crap, though.
GOOD CALL. I THOUGHT IT WAS PRETTY GOOD, TOO.
IT'S GETTING HARD TO TELL WHICH ONE OF US HAS BEEN HERE LONGER. *HO-HO-HO.*
ALRIGHTY. TIME TO UPDATE THE BLOG...
AH!
I'M SORRY...
IT MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN MY PLACE, BUT...



1 Keep it up!

Tachibana-san's service is very polite and welcoming. I'm rooting for you! (^-^)/

MACHA-AMI (REPLY)

2 I guess...

Tachibana-san is VOYAGER's more ladylike waitress? (pardon me)
The blog was easy to read and enjoyable.
Now there won't be any problem if Koda-san has to take time off.

CRIMSON PORK CUTLET (REPLY)

3 I've been waiting for this!

!!!!!!! LOOOOOVE TACHIBANA-SAN!

MIKA-DNA (REPLY)

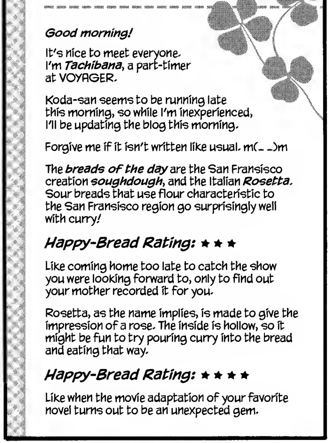
4 Tachibana-san

I'm glad to see another waitress was hired.
I was worried VOYAGER was going to close for a while.
Tachibana-san's service is still a bit stiff, but she's very pretty and I hope she'll become another local favorite.

REISHIN (REPLY)

5 No Subject

Are you only a temporary worker?
I wish you'd work there all the time.
I fell in love at first sight.



Good morning!

It's nice to meet everyone.
I'm ***Tachibana***, a part-timer at VOYAGER.

Koda-san seems to be running late this morning, so while I'm inexperienced, I'll be updating the blog this morning.

Forgive me if it isn't written like usual. m(_ _)m

The ***breads of the day*** are the San Fransisco creation ***soughdough***, and the Italian ***Rosetta.*** Sour breads that use flour characteristic to the San Fransisco region go surprisingly well with curry!

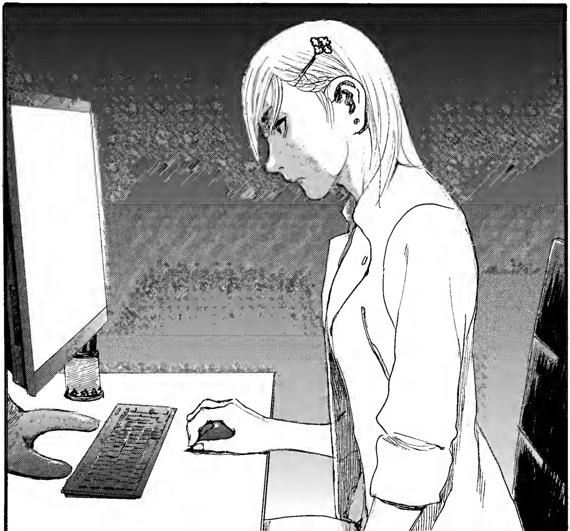
Happy-Bread Rating: ★★★

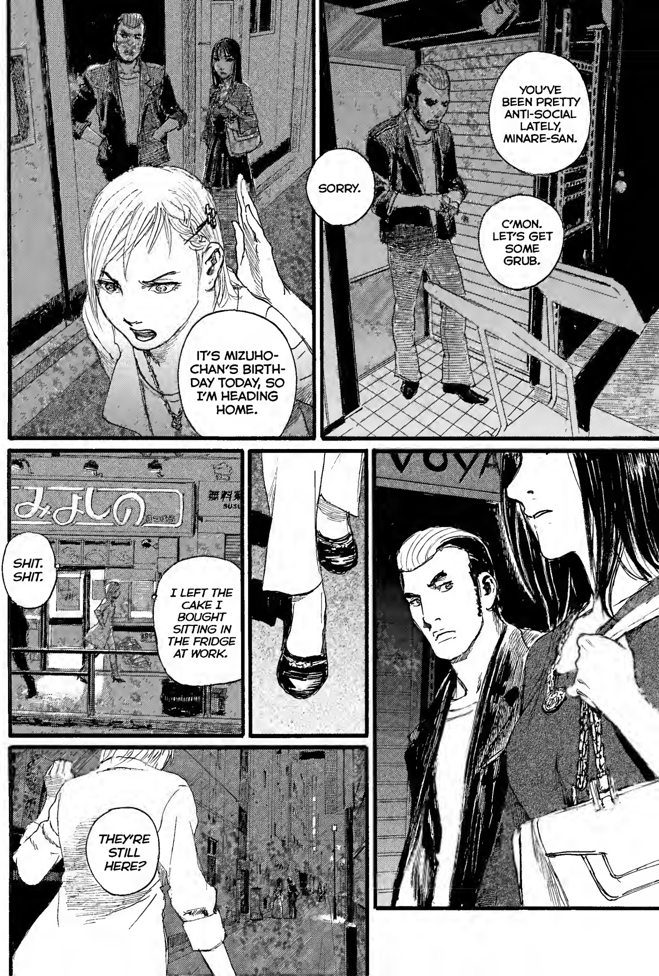
Like coming home too late to catch the show you were looking forward to, only to find out your mother recorded it for you.

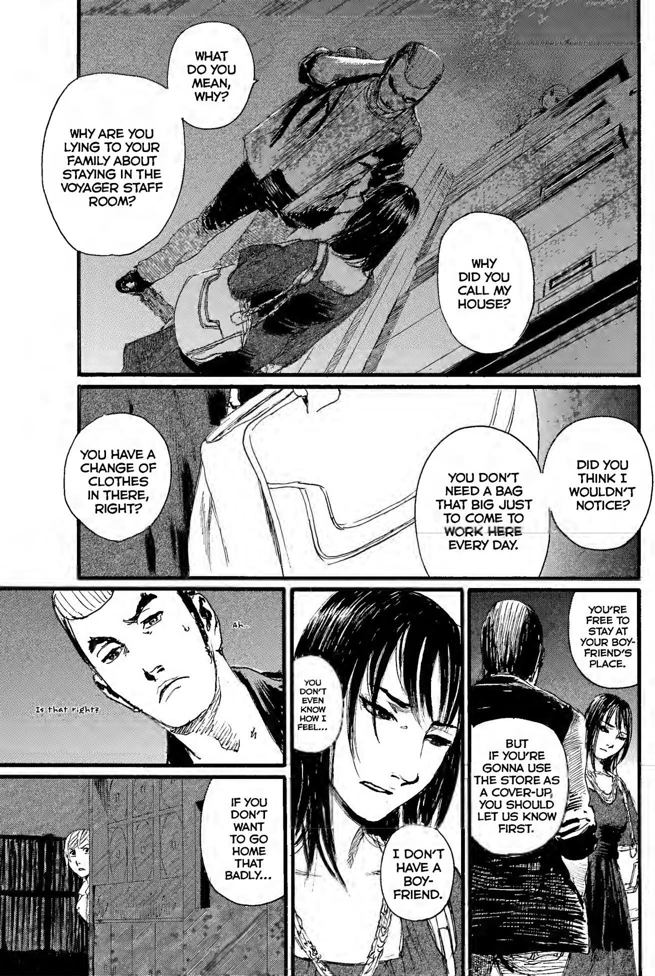
Rosetta, as the name implies, is made to give the impression of a rose. The inside is hollow, so it might be fun to try pouring curry into the bread and eating that way.

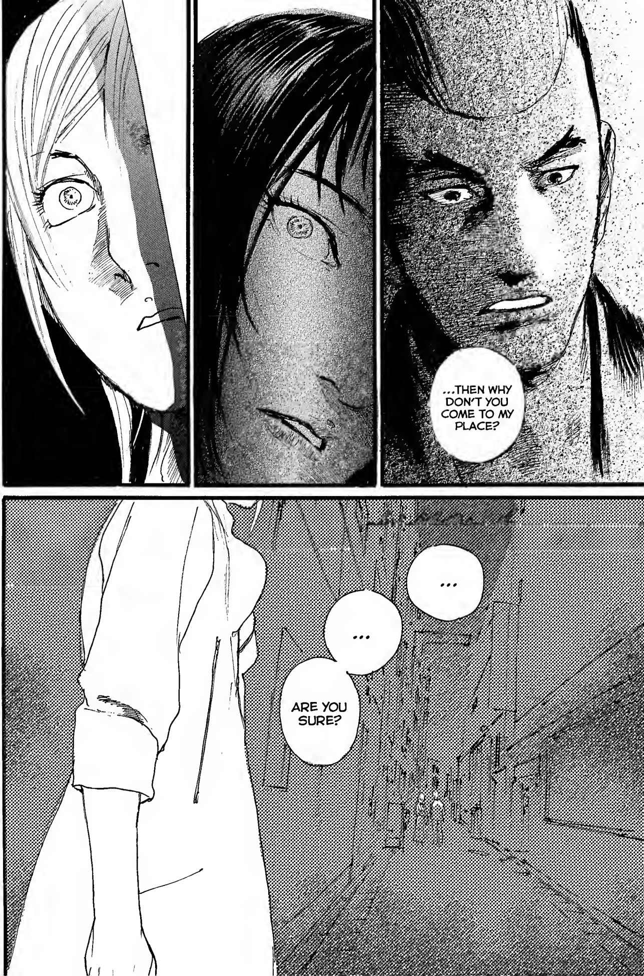
Happy-Bread Rating: ★★★★

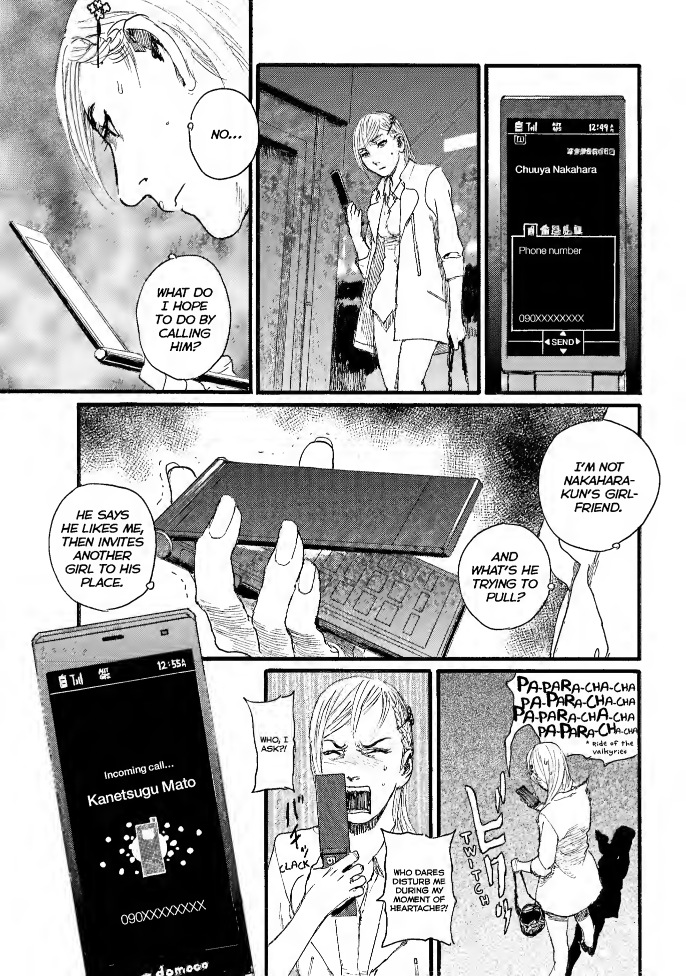
Like when the movie adaptation of your favorite novel turns out to be an unexpected gem.

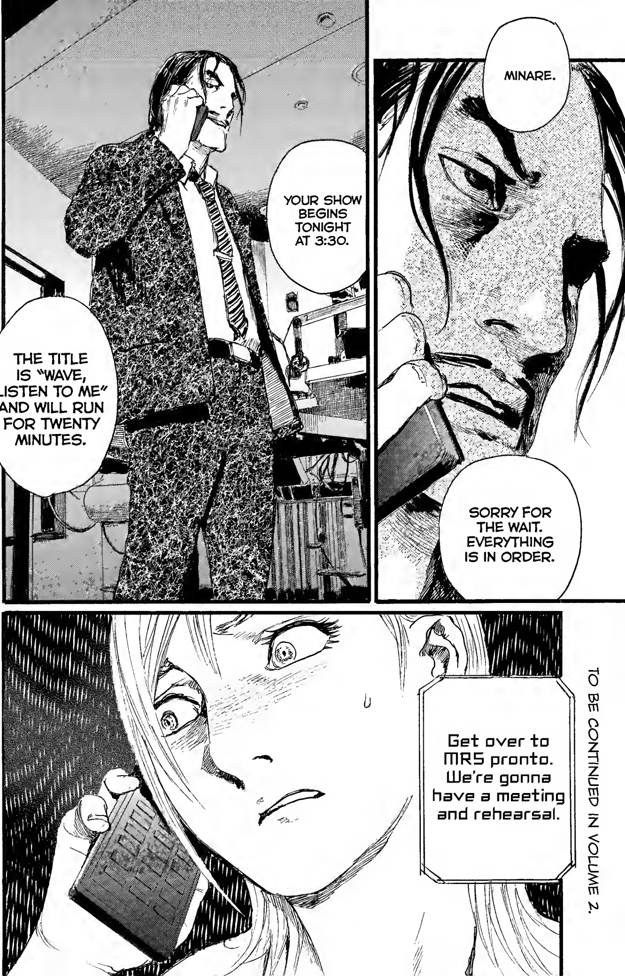



YOU'VE BEEN PRETTY ANTI-SOCIAL LATELY, MINARE-SAN.
SORRY.
C'MON. LET'S GET SOME GRUB.
IT'S MIZUHO-CHAN'S BIRTHDAY TODAY, SO I'M HEADING HOME.
VOYA
みよしの
I LEFT THE CAKE I BOUGHT SITTING IN THE FRIDGE AT WORK.
SHIT. SHIT.
THEY'RE STILL HERE?

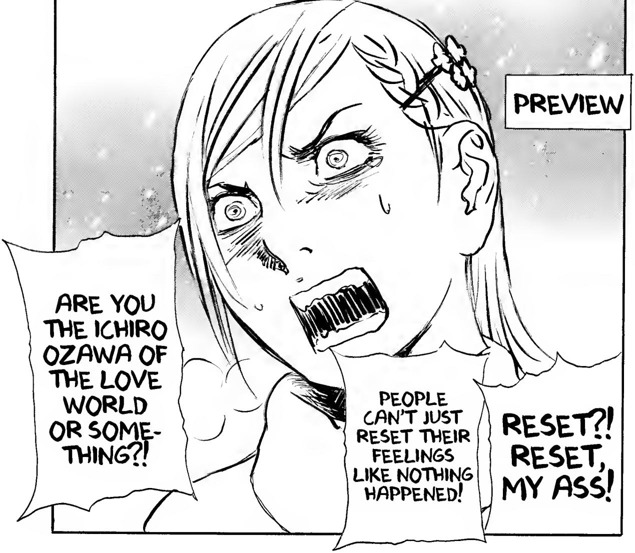

WHY DID YOU CALL MY HOUSE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHY?
WHY ARE YOU LYING TO YOUR FAMILY ABOUT STAYING IN THE VOYAGER STAFF ROOM?
DID YOU THINK I WOULDN'T NOTICE?
YOU DON'T NEED A BAG THAT BIG JUST TO COME TO WORK HERE EVERY DAY.
YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF CLOTHES IN THERE, RIGHT?
YOU'RE FREE TO STAY AT YOUR BOYFRIEND'S PLACE.
BUT IF YOU'RE GONNA USE THE STORE AS A COVER-UP YOU SHOULD LET US KNOW FIRST.
I DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND.
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW I FEEL...
Ah...
Is that right?
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO GO HOME THAT BADLY...


...THEN WHY DON'T YOU COME TO MY PLACE?
...
...
ARE YOU SURE?


12:49
Chuuya Nakahara
Phone number
090XXXXXXXX
SEND
NO...
WHAT DO I HOPE TO DO BY CALLING HIM?
I'M NOT NAKAHARA-KUN'S GIRLFRIEND.
AND WHAT'S HE TRYING TO PULL?
HE SAYS HE LIKES ME, THEN INVITES ANOTHER GIRL TO HIS PLACE.
PA-PARA-CHA-CHA PA-PARA-CHA-CHA PA-PARA-CHA-CHA PA-PARA-CHA-CHA
* Ride of the valkyries
TWITCH
WHO DARES DISTURB ME DURING MY MOMENT OF HEARTACHE?!
CLACK
WHO, I ASK?!
12:55
Incoming call...
Kanetsugu Mato
090XXXXXXXX
docomo


MINARE.
SORRY FOR THE WAIT. EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER.
YOUR SHOW BEGINS TONIGHT AT 3:30.
THE TITLE IS "WAVE, LISTEN TO ME" AND WILL RUN FOR TWENTY MINUTES.
Get over to MRS pronto. We're gonna have a meeting and rehearsal.

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 2.


PREVIEW
RESET?! RESET, MY ASS!
PEOPLE CAN'T JUST RESET THEIR FEELINGS LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED!
ARE YOU THE ICHIRO OZAWA OF THE LOVE WORLD OR SOMETHING?!

AFTERWORD

Hello everyone. I hope you enjoyed volume one of *Wave, Listen to Me*. There are times when even I, the writer, question just what kind of manga this is, so I can only imagine how you the readers feel. My editor told me, “Let's write a story about love and radio,” but by the end of volume one, putting the radio aspect aside, I was shocked to realize the romance component made up maybe 1% of the whole book. It's the skim milk of romance manga. I plan to try to remedy that from volume two onward. The other important concept we had in mind was, “This time, let's make a manga where no one dies.” I think I'll be able to protect that idea. I'm getting older, so I feel it's about time I tune it down on the torture porn and parody stories and this manga is the result of that compulsion. I went to Hokkaido twice in order to do research for this manga. On TV in Tokyo I saw reports saying, “Tremendous snowfall hits the Kanto area for the first time in a decade! Cities see 20 cm of snow!”, and people were freaking out about it, but while I was taking a taxi in Asahikawa, the driver casually said, “I snowed a bit last night. We got about 20 cm.” At that moment, as the representative for Tokyo, I apologized to the people of Hokkaido in my heart. Tokyo's “In a decade” is Hokkaido's “It snowed a bit yesterday.” My yearly earnings are their monthly earnings, or Gates's daily. That's what it felt like hearing that sort of thing. Oh, when this manga was serialized in a magazine, I shortened Seico Mart as “Seico” and had readers writing in saying, “it's actually Seicoma,” so I went back and corrected it. Well, then. I hope to see you all again in volume two. **Hiroaki Samura**

Wave, Listen to Me! 1

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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